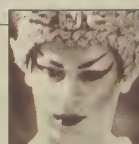


It's not quite gay marriage, but...
On heels of Canadian decision, German federal court upholds same-sex unions.
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Another first for Katz
Esteemed professor will oversee Yale's gay studies program.
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Nijinsky lives
Paul Cox films the dancer's uncut diaries.
see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 30 • 25 July 2002

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Gay pioneer Bill Plath dies at 77

by Cynthia Laird

Bill Plath, a lifelong gay activist instrumental in founding the Tavern Guild, San Francisco's earliest gay business organization, and the homophile organization SIR (Society for Individual Rights) passed away in his San Francisco home near Alamo Square on July 9. He was also a very active member of the early Council on Religion and Homosexuality, the organization that had a New Year's ball raided by the San Francisco Police Department many years prior to the Stonewall riots.



Bill Plath

Mr. Plath was 77, and had spent most of his life with his partner of 45 years, Dick Rousseau, who passed away a year earlier.

Mr. Plath was born in Chicago and served with the United States Army during World War II. He moved to San Francisco in the early 1950s, as he said in an unpublished interview, "because a friend told me that's where all the queers are." Out of the closet nearly 20 years before the Stonewall riots, which usually mark the "beginning" of the gay liberation movement, Mr. Plath once said, "I had no problem with being gay. I got involved in the gay movement because there was no reason not to."

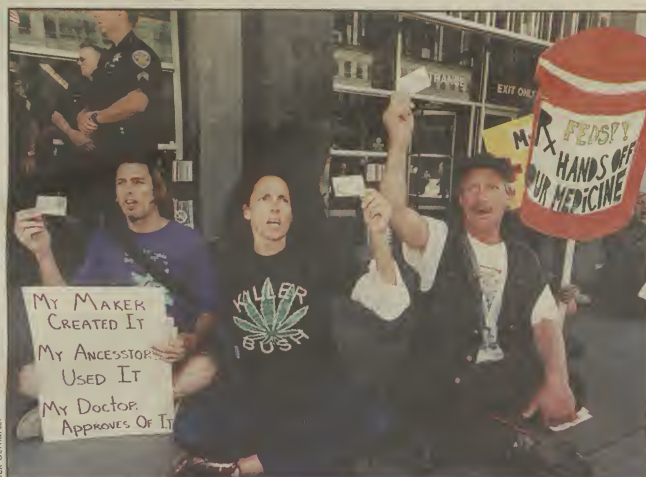
After a stint in the classified advertising department of the *San Francisco Examiner*, Mr. Plath began a career in the bar and restaurant business managing Bond Street, a gay bar in North Beach, the first of many he would operate over his lifetime, including the Opera Club and the Orpheum Circus. Bond Street was followed by the D'Oak Room, which he opened at the corner of Divisadero and Oak. (Characteristic of Mr. Plath's humor, friends said the name was chosen as a play on the Oak Room, a swank "men's bar" at the Saint Francis Hotel.)

"The D'Oak Room was my heaven," Mr. Plath said. Licensed to sell only beer and wine, the bar featured Mr. Plath's beloved German music on the jukebox, draft beer for a nickel, and one of a kind festivities like Swiss Independence Day, Catherine the Great's Birthday and the Wedding Anniversary of Ferdinand and Isabella. Mr. Plath described the bar as a place where "everybody knew each other. That was one of the things I pushed very strongly. A total stranger would come in, we'd get into a conversation, and I'd introduce him to everybody. I'd find jobs for people, apartments for people, roommates,

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CA Supreme Court OKs medical pot

by Liz Highleyman



Demonstrators in San Francisco earlier this year told the feds to let them have their medical marijuana. Last week, California Supreme Court agreed, ruling unanimously that the state's medicinal marijuana law can help pot users avoid being tried for drug offenses.

In a welcome victory for medical marijuana users, the California Supreme Court ruled last Thursday, July 18 that patients who can show they are using the drug for medical reasons have limited immunity from criminal prosecution.

According to the unanimous decision written by Chief Justice Ronald George, possession, cultivation, and use of marijuana are "no more criminal — so long as [the state law's] conditions are satisfied — than the possession and acquisition of any prescription drug with a doctor's prescription."

Proposition 215 — which allows the use of medical marijuana with a doctor's recommendation to alleviate symptoms related to glaucoma, multiple sclerosis, the side effects of AIDS or cancer chemotherapy, or other serious conditions — was overwhelmingly approved by voters in November 1996.

Last week's decision marked the first time the state high court has ruled on the law.

Thursday's ruling stems from the 1997 arrest of Myron Mower, a diabetic who uses marijuana to relieve nausea and stimulate his appetite; police found 31 cannabis plants at Mower's Tuolumne County home, more than the county allows. A jury convicted Mower in 1998 and he was given five years probation. A Fresno appeals court upheld the conviction, and the case was then bumped up to the state high court. With Thursday's ruling, the case was sent back to Tuolumne Superior Court for a retrial, although prosecutors may drop the case.

The state attorney general's office had initially argued that while the law provided a defense patients could use during trial, it did not prevent their arrest or prosecution. Although the Supreme Court justices did not go so far as to agree with Mower's contention that the state law provides complete immunity, they did say that it "reasonably must be interpreted to grant a defendant a limited immunity from prosecution."

In addition, the justices ruled that the law may provide for pretrial dismissal if defen-

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AIDS 'czar' musical chairs Bush replaces Scott Evertz with gay physician

by Bob Roehr

The Bush administration is shuffling the deck of players dealing with HIV. AIDS czar Scott Evertz is leaving that office to become a senior adviser on global aspects of the epidemic to Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson.

Dr. Joseph O'Neill is taking his place as head of what is officially called the Office of National AIDS Policy. Like Evertz, O'Neill is an out gay man and is in a longtime relationship. The White House announcement came on July 19.

O'Neill is a career civil servant who is uniquely well qualified for the job, sources said. He received his medical training at the University of California, San Francisco and holds degrees in business administration and public health from the University of California at Berkeley. He served as medical director of the Chase Brexton Clinic, which was established to serve the gay and lesbian community and has evolved to become a large provider of AIDS services in Baltimore.

O'Neill was the chief administrator of the Ryan White program, which this year is distributing \$1.9 billion in federal funds for AIDS services. Under Thompson, O'Neill moved downtown to HHS headquarters to serve as acting director of the Office of HIV/AIDS Policy.

Evertz reportedly is delighted to be leaving the political hot seat where he has served since April 2001. He has been attacked from the left for not doing enough and from the right for doing too much.

"President Bush continues to lead where others merely offered speeches and rhetoric," said Rich Tafel, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans. "With Scott Evertz and Joe O'Neill, we have two of the best qualified people in the nation on the president's team fighting the AIDS epidemic both at home and abroad."

O'Neill's appointment "is great news," said Marsha Martin, executive director of the AIDS Action Council, the national association of



Scott Evertz will work on global AIDS issues.

AIDS services organization. She served as a special assistant on HIV to former HHS Secretary Donna Shalala. "If we are going to look for symbolic gestures, this is one. We are very happy."

"We want to applaud the administration for appointing a physician, who has worked with people with HIV, who has worked inside the federal government, who has run the world's largest AIDS program, and who understands the relationship between prevention and treatment," she said.

"It's a double win for us," added Martin. With Evertz moving over to the international side, "You have two gay men in leadership roles on domestic and international HIV policy. That's a good thing."

Maureen O'Leary, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, found O'Neill's résumé "encouraging." But she re-

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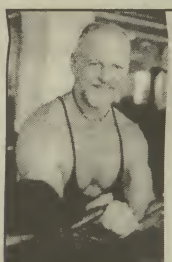
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Arrest made in AIDS Grove graffiti incident

by Joe Dignan

San Francisco Police have arrested a suspect in connection with the June 20 vandalism of the National AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park. According to police, Philip Atkinson, 20, confessed to the crime while in custody after police entered his Sunset District home on Monday, July 22.

Police have charged him with a hate crime, in addition to other charges.

Atkinson allegedly spray painted "Kill a Fag," "Fuck AIDS," and other epithets in the Circle of Friends area of the grove, across engraved names and bare spots on the memorial. He then allegedly scrawled, "Chuck Limbert latest stat to die of AIDS" and then signed his work with his graffiti tag, "Crept."

Limbert, an openly gay sergeant in the San Francisco Police Department, had been the head of the department's graffiti detail, and had arrested Atkinson on graffiti charges in the past.

The investigating officer who responded to the grove incident called Limbert, who recalled he recognized the tag immediately as Atkinson's. "I interacted with this kid and his family once a week for years," Limbert said.

Limbert speculated that the tagging was precipitated by the publicity surrounding the death, on June 12, of Limbert's friend,



Suspected tagger Philip Atkinson

Officer Jon C. Cook — an openly gay rookie cop who was killed in a car crash in the Mission while on duty responding to a call.

"It was not a coincidence that I had been on TV about my best friend who was a police officer and happened to be gay," Limbert said. "He knows me. I had busted him before for graffiti. He belonged to MBS, short for Most Bitches Served, a notorious tagging group in the Sunset."

"They knew I was an out gay officer. I never hid that. So, here is this gay officer who is arresting them and chastising them. This really infuriated these homophobic individuals."

Atkinson had been arrested for tagging as a juvenile and was enrolled in a program for taggers in which offenders cover and clean up graffiti.

Limbert speculated that much of the background of Atkinson's alleged homophobia stems from poor role models for gays and les-

bians in his childhood.

"He's not dealing with his sexuality. He's angry about I don't know what. Here I am a very aggressive police officer that's gay. That upsets a lot of people who are questioning their sexuality."

As to why Atkinson would allegedly deface a national AIDS memorial with anti-gay epithets and taunts to a gay cop and then sign the vandalism with his known tag, Limbert said, "He was with a group of other people. They sat around drinking beer, pissing, and defacing the AIDS memorial. You can't come to the Castro and do that."

"And you cannot get recognized, and you can't get props from other taggers, unless you sign your work," Limbert added.

"If they thought there were going to be severe consequences for doing it, they would never have done it. They obviously thought they could get away with it; 'Who cares, it's just a fag memorial anyway.' Sometimes our judicial system overlooks graffiti. And then they transition into adulthood. This could have been easily sideline, but the department took it very seriously," Limbert said.

On Wednesday, a judge set bail for Atkinson at \$25,000. He faces charges stemming from the graffiti incident plus an unrelated burglary. If convicted, he could serve up to five years in prison.

Atkinson refused a jailhouse interview with the B.A.R. ▼

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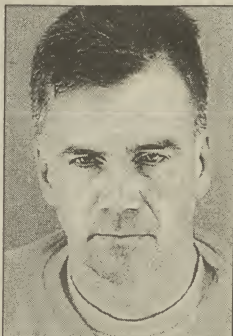
Accused Castro burglar caught after jail escape

by Ed Walsh

The man who allegedly went on a one-man crime spree in the Castro this spring was briefly on the loose again after escaping from San Francisco County Jail this week. San Francisco Sheriff's deputies captured James Flanagan, 42, at about 6 p.m. on Tuesday, July 23, in a self-service laundry on the 500 block of Church Street near Dolores Park, about 24 hours after he somehow managed to slip out of jail unnoticed.

Flanagan was first discovered missing from the jail at the Hall of Justice on Bryant Street at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, July 22. Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Eileen Hirst said it's unknown how Flanagan managed to get away. His jail clothes were found discarded next to a freight elevator in the basement. He was given "trustee" status as an inmate worker and was assigned to various jobs in the jail, Hirst said.

After Flanagan was discovered missing, 14 pairs of deputies canvassed areas he was known to frequent. Deputies spotted him walking near 17th and Church streets and they arrested him after he entered the laundry. He was dressed in a gray sweatshirt and blue pants and made no attempt to disguise his appearance, Hirst said.



Escapee James Flanagan

San Francisco Patrol Special Police Officer Jane Warner correctly predicted just after Flanagan's escape that he would return to his old stomping ground.

"I think this guy is going to be sticking around because his ego is so large," Warner told the *Bay Area Reporter* on the night that Flanagan escaped.

Warner first noticed the pattern of Flanagan's crimes in the Castro and orchestrated a campaign with police from Mission Station that finally resulted in his arrest in May. Flanagan is suspected of burglarizing more than a dozen Castro area businesses.

Swipe ATMs were among Flanagan's favorite alleged targets.

"He can get into anything, nothing is safe with this guy," said a Swipe ATM employee who asked not to be named.

The worker said she feared for her safety while Flanagan was on the lam.

Police believe Flanagan began his Castro crime spree in April. San Francisco Police Sergeant Chuck Limbert, one of the department's gay liaisons, told the *B.A.R.* that he believes Flanagan committed 14 burglaries in the Castro over a two-month period.

Limbert said that Flanagan is known to police as a "crack head" who had been living on the streets in the area of Church and Market, near where he was arrested after his escape. He apparently made enough money from his alleged Castro burglaries to pay for a hotel room in the Mission where he had been living when he was arrested in May, Limbert said. Investigators believe Flanagan netted tens of thousands of dollars in cash and property during his alleged crime spree.

Police believe Flanagan is responsible for burglaries at the Sausage Factory, Café Du Nord, Klotz Watches, *Frontiers* news-magazine, Enzi Beauty Salon, Faye's Video, Tin Pan Restaurant, Vibrant Health, Video Control, and Blue Restaurant. Investigators believe Flanagan hit the Pilsner Inn twice.

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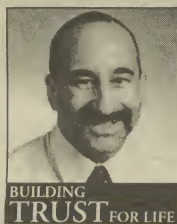
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TG activists say Haygood victim of mudslinging

by Zak Szymanski

Say what you will about Tammy Haygood's performance as San Francisco's elections chief or her current legal battle to be reinstated in her position. For many LGBT San Franciscans — regardless of how they feel she ran the San Francisco Department of Elections — recent allegations that she is seeking rehire in order to pay for her partner's sex change went too far.

Last Monday, July 15, *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist Phil Matier and Andrew Ross stated that Haygood's fight to be reinstated is "also about something much more personal — regaining city health coverage for Haygood's husband, who happened to be in the midst of having a sex change when Haygood was fired."

The landmark city health benefits that cover surgery and hormones for transgender city employees (or transgender spouses of city employees), implied Matier and Ross, are a driving force behind Haygood's fight for her job, which

has now moved to federal court.

Never mind that Haygood's partner has thus far reportedly paid for his own treatment out of his pocket, and that the couple is reportedly also financially able to continue to do so. The issue, said transgender and housing activist Robert Haaland, is that Matier and Ross consistently play off public misperception about transgenders and their medical needs.

"It's fair to say that Matier and Ross consistently sensationalize transgender issues and particularly the health benefit issue," said Haaland. "They wouldn't have done an article at all if her partner needed surgery for anything else. It's sad that they can use what is obviously an important issue to transgenders for their own bigotry. I strongly condemn it."

Veronika Cauley, a transgender activist and candidate for supervisor in District 8, agreed.

"The bottom line is that there is no reason for them to bring her transgendered partner into the picture at all," said Cauley. "It has nothing to do with the reason she was fired or anything else. This is

just typical of how the media portrays African Americans and transgenders. We're still fighting for our respect, and we're used as issues when it's convenient."

Haygood and her partner are black. Haygood was fired by the Elections Commission in April.

At press time, Haygood was awaiting the expiration of a court-ordered stay that prevents her from returning to her job. Last week, Haygood was reinstated by the Civil Service Commission, which agreed that she had been fired unlawfully. The Elections Commission quickly filed for the stay, which could be extended past its July 24 deadline; both parties hope to win their respective lawsuits over Haygood's firing, and the Elections Commission does not want Haygood reinstated while those legal issues are still unresolved.

What must remain the focus of the court cases, said Vernon Grigg III, Haygood's attorney, is whether Haygood was illegally fired, not issues about her personal life.

"This has been an unprecedented vicious attack," Grigg told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "It's shocking." ▼

Fair fee compromise reached

by Joe Dignan

After three weeks of haggling and two major meetings, the mayor's budget office and the organizers of many of San Francisco's street fairs finally agreed on how much the fairs will have to pay the city for police protection next year.

The mayor's office, as part of the "hard times" budget for fiscal year 2002-03, had proposed removing the existing \$2,500 cap on police fees for fairs that sell liquor. Pride Committee Executive Director Teddy Witherington said that would have jumped Pride's police fees to approximately \$60,000 — about 6 percent of Pride's \$1 million operating budget.

Organizers of some other celebrations, like the Castro Street Fair, said they would be forced to stop selling liquor, which they said is the major source of revenue for the charities the fairs support.

Cinco de Mayo festival organizers had said that the new requirement would have simply put

them out of business.

The compromise fee schedule — which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on Monday, July 22 — will cap fees at \$20,000 for the largest events with over 250,000 attendees, like Pride and the Folsom Street Fair. Smaller events with less than 100,000 attendees will pay a maximum of \$5,000. Intermediate size events with between 100,000 and 250,000 attendees, like the Castro Street Fair and Haight Street Fair, would pay a maximum of \$10,000.

The new rates apply only to the 16 fairs that sell liquor. Fairs that are alcohol-free will remain capped at \$2,500, and even that fee can be waived if the fair organizers demonstrate they cannot pay.

"The community responded and the city heard us loud and clear. The result is fair," Witherington said.

Fair organizers commended the mayor's staff, especially finance director Ben Rosenfield, and city supervisors for their receptiveness to the needs of the affected street fairs, most of which

are nonprofits.

"We think that it balances the needs of the street fairs with the needs of the city, and we can live with the outcome," said Castro Street Fair President Steven Gaynes.

Under the revised proposal, the city will get an additional \$150,000 to be added to the general fund, according to Rosenfield. The city had originally hoped to raise as much as \$350,000 for the general fund with the new fees.

While important to the fair organizers, the agreement is small potatoes in the grand scheme of the city's finances.

In the same meeting, the board passed the city's new \$5 billion budget.

This budget is the first during the Brown administration that has not increased spending. Two-thirds of the city's budget is made up of payroll costs, salary and benefits, "about average among cities," according to Rosenfield.

Rosenfield explained that because of funding restrictions and required programs, the discretionary budget is about \$1 billion. ▼

Castro church ponders move to new site

by Matthew S. Bajko

After 32 years of offering worship and solace to the queer community, the Metropolitan Community Church of San Francisco has outgrown its current building at 150 Eureka Street in the Castro.

According to the church, its building is too small to house the 540-member congregation and is in need of repairs. This Sunday, the congregation will meet to decide if the time is right to look for a new location for their church.

Since January, the church's building committee has been working on a proposal to map out several options for such a move. The outcome of those discussions

is for the congregation to build a new 40,000 square foot lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender spiritual center estimated to cost between \$11.5 million to \$15 million.

The church has ruled out tearing down and rebuilding its current structure because it would result in a smaller building due to zoning and code restrictions. The church has also deemed remodeling its building is not worth the expense because it would not yield additional space.

The church estimates it could raise \$1 million from selling its current building along with an apartment building at 138-140 Eureka Street. The congregation has already raised \$66,000 for its new building fund and would launch a capital campaign to raise

the rest of the money. MCC's proposal also calls for soliciting grants from the city and state for the parts of the center that would house social service programs.

If the congregation decides to move forward with the plan, then the church's board would begin scouting for a 14,000 to 16,000 square foot lot to buy or acquire a 40,000 square foot building somewhere in the Castro, Mission, Duboce Triangle or Hayes Valley areas.

"We can only grow so much because of our space," said the Reverend Penny Nixon, the church's senior pastor. "If the resolution doesn't move forward then we will go back to the drawing board."

The meeting on the new building proposal will take place at 1 p.m. Sunday, July 28 at MCC-SF. ▼

Vermont gov says gay marriage is a state issue

by Matthew S. Bajko

Vermont Governor Howard Dean, who filed paperwork this month to raise funds for an expected campaign for the 2004 Democratic presidential nomination, told NBC's *Meet the Press* host Tim Russert that he will not push for a federal gay marriage law if he is elected.

"I believe each state has to come to grips with civil rights," said Dean on the Sunday, July 21 program. "I think that gay and lesbian people are entitled to the same legal and civil rights that everybody else has, but I think every state has to come to grips with that in [its] own way."

The 53-year-old Dean, who signed the nation's only civil union bill in law in 2000, has spent the past week traversing California and meeting with various interest groups. Before a meeting with members of the gay community at the LGBT Community Center in San Francisco on Tuesday, July 23, Dean told the *Bay Area Reporter* that he will push for the federal government to grant the same rights to gay couples in civil unions as married couples receive.

"I would make sure the federal government recognized civil unions," he said.

However, Dean once again stated he would not push for a



Vermont Governor Howard Dean

federal law granting marriage rights to gays and lesbians.

"It is not the federal government's job to tell the states who can and cannot get married," Dean said.

While he is disappointed Dean will not push for gay marriages, Mike Marshall, executive director of Californians for Civil Marriage, said Dean's campaign will at least bring the issue into the national spotlight. Marshall met with Dean to discuss the issue this week.

"Did I hear everything I want-

ed to hear? No," said Marshall. "Did I hear a far more aggressive attitude toward same-sex marriage than I probably will hear from any other candidate? Then the answer is yes."

No matter what Dean's position is on the issue of gay marriage, Marshall said the very fact he is making civil unions a cornerstone of his campaign is real progress.

"If he is willing to talk about civil unions then what we have to do is seize that conversation and exploit his presidential campaign to our advantage. He is going to be a great weapon for us," said Marshall.

Already, Dean is championing his signing of the civil union bill as the most important act of his political career. With a majority of Vermonters opposed to the controversial measure when he signed it, Dean is using the civil union issue as a test of his political courage.

"If I denied a whole bunch of human beings equal rights under the law simply because it was politically inconvenient and bad for my career, then there's really no difference between me and three quarters of the rest of the politicians in this world," Dean said on the television program. "It took guts, and I'd be very interested to know whether anybody else running for president would have dared sign that bill." ▼

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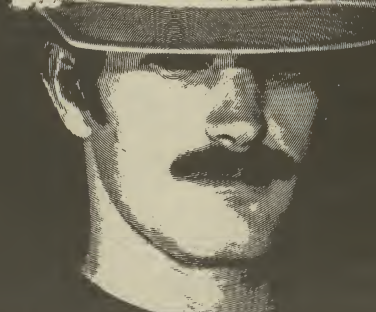
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Medical pot's big victory

The California Supreme Court—unlike the U.S. Supreme Court—“gets it” when it comes to the legitimacy of medicinal marijuana. Last week the state’s high court gave medical cannabis patients important new legal protections when it ruled unanimously that the state must treat the herb the same as traditional medicines that are prescribed by doctors. That’s a significant legal victory.

Long before the passage of California’s Proposition 215 in 1996, medical marijuana advocates in the LGBT community were pointing out the benefits of the drug, particularly in helping to alleviate the painful nausea often associated with many AIDS medications and in helping patients to regain their appetite if suffering from wasting syndrome.

After the passage of Proposition 215, San Francisco political leaders took an aggressive approach to implementing the law. Supervisor Mark Leno took the lead in working with medical cannabis clubs, local law enforcement authorities, and public health officials in crafting the city’s medical marijuana identification card program.

Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammann met with Attorney General Bill Lockyer on the issue shortly after Lockyer was elected several years ago. Unfortunately, state officials have been slow to realize the importance of medical marijuana: Lockyer, in fact, initially argued in favor of the defendant’s conviction, which was at the center of last week’s groundbreaking decision. Lockyer has now spoken in favor of the ruling.

Unfortunately, the federal government, in its obsession with the so-called war on drugs, does not see the value of medicinal cannabis and has stonewalled virtually all important medical research that would be able to provide solid scientific evidence for the use of the drug by those suffering from AIDS, glaucoma, cancer, diabetes, and other diseases. The studies that the federal government have approved reluctantly are very

few and, as we have noted, the federally provided pot is reportedly of such poor quality that some of the patients have quit the studies in exasperation.

Medical marijuana advocates, not surprisingly, are elated with the decision, and some have predicted that there will be fewer prosecutions and more acquittals. Attorney Gerald Uelman, who defended the California man in this case, also noted the importance of the court’s decision when he said, “People who medicate with marijuana are not second-class citizens.”

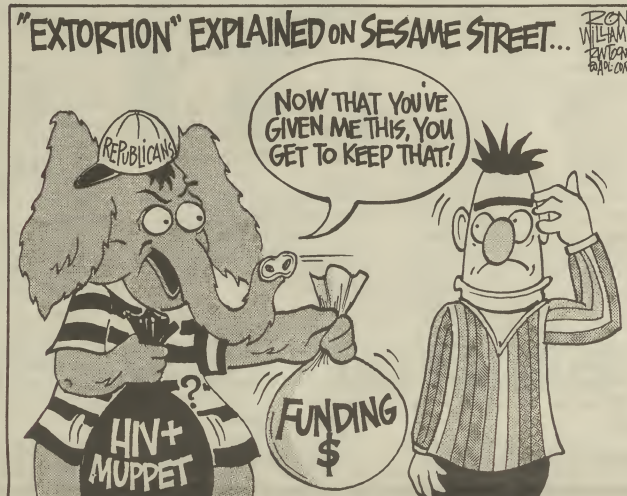
Last week’s state Supreme Court decision flies in the face of the federal government’s objections and the May 2001 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that

marijuana has no medical value. State Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald George correctly surmised in his opinion that medical pot should be treated the same as any other prescription. Doctors should be able to prescribe it and patients should be able to take it without the fear of prosecution.

It’s time to dispel the stereotype that people who use medical marijuana are just potheads wanting to get high. It’s time to demand scientific research; and, if the results are promising, time for the U.S. government to allow states that have medical marijuana laws to implement them. Last week’s state Supreme Court decision was a giant step in the right direction. ▼



Editorial



Reflections on Canada decision

by Frederick Hertz

A district court in Ontario, Canada recently ruled that the Canadian ban on same-sex marriage violated the constitutional rules of the province of Ontario and the nation of Canada. While it is more direct and more decisive than the rulings of other courts in Canada, in fact this ruling is in step with the near cascade of Canadian legislative and judicial statements in favor of marriage rights for lesbians and gay men. Whether or not this precise ruling is upheld, the trend in Canada is a strong one, in favor of our rights and in recognition of our relationships.

Most folks would have thought that the San Francisco Bay Area is a far more enlightened place than Ontario, but in fact, as this decision so clearly demonstrates, it isn’t really so. Yes, a local judge has struck down the wrongful death discriminatory ban on claims by unmarried couples, in the Whipple ruling, and yes, our state Legislature has finally enacted a modicum of domestic partnership rights for same-sex couples. But when you step back and take an honest look at where we live, in many important respects our social climate isn’t all that terrific.

Part of the problem, I suspect, is the dissonance between our expansive sexual freedom and the limits of our social entitlements, and the substitution of celebrity liberation for broad based equality. We have sex clubs and gay politicians, but yet no right to bring our partners in legally from foreign lands. We have a film festival and a parade, but we consistently pay higher property taxes, income taxes, and transfer taxes. We have celebratory commitment ceremonies, but not IRS protections. Listening to my clients these days, I sense that many of us compare our situation to those in rural America and feel rightly proud of our freedoms—and especially happy in our sexual

liberation. But if we honestly contrast our deeper legal and social situations with those of our comrades in most other modern democracies, we really are not in such great shape at all.

Examples of these restrictions abound. Dependent lesbian and gay partners face steep legal obstacles if they try to win post-separation support from their higher-earning partners. Lesbians and gay men rarely can take family leave to care for their partners. Bank and insurance companies consistently charge us more for services, and offer us substandard products. And, in my particular field of real estate law, my clients have to pay for private agreements, complex tax advice, and frequently face higher property taxes when their relationships end.

Meanwhile, Holland legalizes same-sex marriage. France bestows significant tax breaks on same-sex couples. Denmark and Australia both allow the foreign partners of lesbians and gay men to immigrate and become legal residents. Even German courts, not generally thought of as particularly liberated, have recently held that the recent legislation enacting marriage-like rights is indeed constitutional, despite the right-wing challenges to the legislation. And increasingly, the provinces of Canada are moving toward full spousal rights and marriage-like benefits for gay couples. These are all societies that have generally been considered far more conservative than California, and look what progress they have made. In a few years, I fear, we may find ourselves truly second-class citizens, in ways that our across-the-sea friends will find inexplicable and, to be honest, a bit confounding.

Part of the problem in this country, I suspect, is the overlapping complexities of legal jurisdictions. Marriage is not just a matter of local benefits; it intersects state and fed-

eral laws as well. Legal change does not come easily, and the shifting alliances and volatile legislative bodies make steady progress difficult to achieve. We seem to win as many battles as we lose, and yet the overall progress is very hard to solidify.

But frankly, I suspect that our restrictions derive much more from a disquieting combination of unchallenged religious dominance over our government and, to be honest, entrenched political disinterest within our own community. We all decry the growing influence of the religious right, but what steps have most of us taken to combat their influence? For all the fabulous energy we all witnessed at the

Pride Parade last month, what percentage of the attendees have devoted any significant funds or personal attention to political reform? Why do we have such disappointing legislators? And why do we allow our goals to be set so low? Did California have no choice but to allow a ban on same-sex marriage to be approved by the voters statewide?

And so, while you are enjoying the wonderful benefits of the freedom we certainly do enjoy, take an honest look at what we don’t have. At the same time, give some thought as to why that’s the case, and how these rules could be changed. For if they can legalize gay marriage in Ontario, surely we can do as well in California. ▼

Frederick Hertz is an attorney in Oakland, California, specializing in the formation and dissolution of non-marital partnerships, and the co-author of *Nolo Press’ Legal Guide for Lesbian & Gay Couples and Living Together: A Legal Guide for Unmarried Couples*. Learn more about his practice at www.samesexlaw.com.

LETTERS

'Bum' is pompous

This is in response to Cowen's column, "Notes from a Castro 'hobosexual'" [Generation Q, July 18]: If you can choose to be a nonproductive bum on the streets of the Castro, then I can choose to have nothing to do with any bums on the street. How pompous of you to think otherwise.

Dick Allen
San Francisco

Empathy on empty

Self-proclaimed bum Cowen calls for a homeless riot in his Generation Q column [July 18]. Tired of being treated disrespectfully just because he's homeless, he wants all queer bums to unite against the "rich fags." Well, I for one will be happy to take Cowen on as soon as he's ready to get up from the sidewalk. Though I am well aware that not all homeless people are drugged out, psycho thieves, I've dealt enough with the ones who are to have run out of empathy for his situation.

As the manager of a SOMA business (the Stud bar) I am sick and tired of the homeless harassing our customers for money and cigarettes; going through our dumpster leaving trash on the sidewalk; urinating on our cars; urinating on our door so that when I arrive in the morning I step in a puddle of piss; stealing decorations from our doorway; stealing power tools, brooms, or whatever we turn our back on for a second; sitting on our stoop drinking; sitting on our stoop screaming; and oh, I almost forgot, just recently someone decided to leave a diarrhea dump right outside our entrance.

Dealing with all this on a daily basis makes it truly difficult for me to respect the homeless. Maybe instead of inciting a riot, Cowen could focus his energy on teaching his fellow bums how to interact with the rest of society.

Daniel Kindstedt
San Francisco

The choice is yours

I'm glad that you printed Cowen's column. It simply reinforced my beliefs about a large segment of what is collectively called "the homeless." He's right, it is a "lifestyle choice." You choose to get involved in unhealthy lifestyles and acts and all choices have consequences. I chose not to become a parasite, feeding off the efforts of others. Cowen chose to embrace it. And now he whines about the consequences of his choices.

P.T. Duffy
San Francisco

Ammiano's critics

Dennis Seely is absolutely correct when he states in his letter to the editor [Mailstrom, July 18] that there was quite a reception for Tom Ammiano all along the parade route. At my vantage point, on the corner of Fourth and Market, most of us were yelling, "Ammiano, you in no way represent our position on key issues," and "You're an embarrassment to our community."

We look forward to voting against Tom again in the next mayoral election.

Brian Geiger
San Francisco

Disappointed with Dyke March

I am writing this to express my pain and disappointment with this year's Dyke March. I went to Dolores Park to connect and be part of a group which purports to support one another and support issues of women's rights, and I expected to feel proud and safe in that environment. Instead, what I found was:

I was sitting with a group of friends, and all those who gathered prior to the march. Suddenly I heard "Israeli guns are unnatural!" Being an Israeli woman, I was so disturbed I sought out the announcer. I found her on the stage and asked to speak with her. Fifteen minutes later, she came and talked with me. I said that it is not right to say that the Israeli guns are not natural, and I asked her if the suicide bombers are "natural." Her response was that, "We are not siding with anyone."

So why didn't she say that guns in general aren't natural? No response. Feeling that the assertion of objectivity from the announcer added insult to injury, I proceeded to seek out the organizers of the march. I located them soon thereafter, but within literally one minute of attempting to express my disappointment and my concern to one of them about the piggy-backed political agenda which was, aside from misplaced, not necessarily reflective of the women's community the Dyke March claims to represent, she shut her car door on me. The other organizer then stepped in saying that the Dyke March does not side with anyone, and after all, they have the right to say whatever they want. I thought the Dyke March was supposed to be a place to be proud and supportive of women. All women. I realized, after this experience, that I have no ear for my concerns in this group. I felt an overwhelming sense of sadness at seclusion from this group I had once thought was the most supportive of

me as a woman. The Dyke March should bring women of all backgrounds together rather than separate us. That's why I think political issues should stay at home for that day.

I want to bring to the attention not only of the Dyke March, but to any gay organization that rejects discrimination and intolerance, that they should think carefully before condemning any group. That's exactly what the rest of the world is doing to us. Let us not be so quick to perpetuate this behavior. Rather let us concentrate on the real issue, that of the empowerment of those who have been demoralized and made to feel unsafe in the place where they should feel the most security — home.

Aliza Amar
San Francisco

No Pride in sex worker story

I was saddened, and frankly disgusted at the appearance of the article "Hard day's work: Lesbian sex worker makes a living" in your June 27 Pride issue. As "Lola" herself states, there is a "big camp of, 'Oh it's so wonderful...'" sex workers out there whose stories could have shared when discussing sex work.

Instead, you chose to interview a self-hating ("...I may look back and realize it sucked the life out of me...," "even the clients I like are all assholes..."), closeted ("You never know who you can tell, so I tend not to talk about it...," "I won't discuss my sex work in school, even though it's so relevant to class topics on socio-economics and the like.") sex worker for your Pride issue. Doesn't that seem a little odd?

Maybe you could have interviewed a gay attorney about the innocent people he has prosecuted and seen convicted or a white cop about the black men he beats up on the job, as part of the Pride issue.

Just as there are sex workers who are unhappy or unsuited for the industry and aspects to the industry which are unsavory, so there are gays in many industries who are unhappy or unsuited for their jobs or who work in imperfect industries, yet it hardly would seem appropriate to interview unhappy workers in other fields for a Pride issue.

Further, before you attempt to hide behind the smoke screen of "just reporting the facts," I challenge you to produce a full length article reflecting on the positive side of the industry in any of your issues.

"Lola's" problem isn't sex work. It's not being grown up enough to take responsibility for her life. She says of her clients that they are "pathetic" when they thank her for her services, and the interviewer then makes that "her empowerment has its price, and it usually comes in the form of emotional shutdown and fear." "Lola" is not empowered, "Lola" is unsuited for the industry and is incapable of sympathy for people who may be coming to her in a very vulnerable state. Maybe if she didn't have a bitchy attitude she wouldn't keep having to deal with "assholes."

I have been in the sex work industry for eight years now and have many friends, gay, straight, and lesbian, in the industry as well. I won't deny that it has its pitfalls, and that, as in any industry in which you deal with the public, many clients can be a pain, but I also have had clients sent to me by their therapists, helped lonely men who had just lost a lover to AIDS begin to reconnect sexually, and helped my share of scared youth gently and safely out of the closet. Before you decide to run another article smearing sex workers or interviewing bitter, childish sex workers, I ask that you run a story on experiences like the ones in the lines above. It wasn't so long ago that the gay community asked mainstream media to stop portraying gays as one-sided and sick. The past (and the advertising dollars sex workers contribute to your paper with their ads in the back) demands that gay media extend the same courtesy to them that you once asked, and now generally receive from mainstream media.

Steve Stacks
San Francisco

He's a traitor

Regarding your editorial about John Walker Lindh ["Lindh ain't no Mandela," July 18]: In my opinion he is a traitor and should be executed. Benedict Arnold was found guilty of treason and was executed and Mr. Lindh is no different. He should be hanged or whatever for treason against his country despite pleas from his parents. Maybe his parents are traitors as well.

Mark Padgett
San Mateo, California

African Americans and AIDS

Thank you for printing the article by Ed Susman entitled "Gay men unaware of their AIDS infection status" [July 11]. When broken down by ethnic groups, it's alarming that 91 percent of gay or bisexual African American men are reportedly unaware if they are infected. The article gave us at Promotions West and Community Education Group a sense that we are on the right track with our social marketing

next page ►

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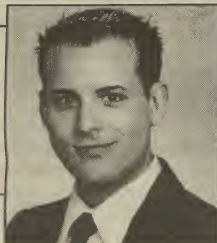
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campaign.

We at Promotions West and Community Education Group are in the process of developing a social marketing campaign targeting African Americans. The San Francisco Department of Public Health, the UCSF Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, and Bristol-Myers Pharmaceutical fund the social marketing campaign. We have developed a series of advertising boards that will be displayed in African American communities throughout the San Francisco Bay Area targeting African American MSMs. Our primary focus of the campaign is to get African Americans talking about HIV/AIDS and to get them to know their HIV status. The project is focused on targeting the African American family instead of a single behavior. The project is culturally based instead of sexually explicit. Community and faith-based organizations will also be targeted for outreach efforts.

Our goal is to get African Americans better informed about HIV/AIDS and to get tested. We are working with a variety of organizations that provide testing in the city and county of San Francisco. New ads will hit the street in September via bus shelters, bus placards, newspaper and magazine advertising, and radio commercials. Promotions West is a local public relations and marketing firm based in San Francisco, specializing in social and ethnic marketing. Community Education Group is a nonprofit organization based in San Francisco with affiliate offices in Washington, D.C.

Mikael Wagner, Promotions West
San Francisco

Applauds candidate's position

Thanks for your article on Bevan Dufty's campaign for supervisor. Bevan's campaign fundraising strategy represents a logical, yet groundbreaking approach that is absolutely on target. Though I believe in the concept of public financing, now is not the time to be subsidizing public office candidates when the city is considering potential layoffs and nonprofits face cuts in providing vital services. I'm disappointed the other candidates are considering using \$45,000 each to deliver their message to the residents of District 8.

As a relatively new resident of San Francisco in District 8, I appreciate your articles on candidates such as Bevan and look forward to future coverage on what seems to be shaping up as an exciting race.

Steve Burmeister
San Francisco

District 8 race

Since the B.A.R.'s attempted (if inept) hit piece on Shawn O'Hearn, followed up by hypocritical outrage from Wayne Friday, I have been waiting to see what running dog of the Brown machine the B.A.R. supports. The puff piece for Bevan Dufty (and its echo from Brown's man Friday) in the July 11 issue provided the answer.

Again attempting to belittle O'Hearn, Ms. Laird writes that "O'Hearn has run unsuccessfully several times for the seat." Since the seat did not exist before the previous supervisorial election, this is a blatant falsehood. Without endorsement by the B.A.R., O'Hearn was elected to the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee (with, if I recall correctly, the highest number of votes) but this information is inconvenient to the agenda of advancing the machine's candidate, so goes unmentioned.

More sloppy reporting is either not asking or not telling whether Dufty is going to abide by the spending limit that exists for those accepting public financing. If the candidate with the readiest access to machine contributions is going to exceed that spending limit, the motives are considerably less noble than the B.A.R.'s spin of them.

Stephen O. Murray
San Francisco

Circumcision and AIDS

A recent editorial response to a reader's question about the value of circumcision to prevent AIDS appeared in the July/August 2002 issue of *Men's Health* magazine. It sums up nicely how one should respond to the "foreskin fears" being promoted by some frantic AIDS researchers.

"...[I]t is enough to justify circumcision when you're not holding your newborn son? Probably not. The fact is, wearing a condom is a much smarter way to protect against STDs. Circumcising a baby boy to protect against STDs is like selling your car to make sure he's never in a crash. That's silly. Keep the car, drive safely, and use the seat belts."

Tim Sally
San Francisco

Haygood's fight for her job

Tammy Haygood's fight for her job has nothing to do with the fact that her partner is an FTM. The

Chronicle's Matier and Ross have continued to present the facts (I love them for it), but they don't always "get it." Tammy Haygood is "intensely fighting for her job" because she followed protocol and directives, and was unjustly fired. That has nothing to do with her life partner, who holds down a wonderful job, and has benefits that suit him just fine. They are not struggling to make it, nor did her life partner need the transgender benefits to be where he is today. Certainly though, he is entitled. That is their personal business, as it is for other spouses, and domestic partners of San Francisco city employees. (Mark Leno, where are you?)

As a transgender woman, my husband has repeatedly been brought into my "political mix" and "battles" with the bureaucracy. He has been persecuted because his wife is "that smart-mouthed tranny activist." This is not only unfair, but it is not in the best interest of a city that is supposed to set a "precedent" for the rest of the nation. Even columnist Rob Morse repeated a snippet of the Matier and Ross story of Haygood's "sex change partner." He even stated that, "This is what the civil rights movement has come to in San Francisco? Pathetic."

It's pathetic that transgenders in this city can be used by any and everyone in their election platforms, but they still can't get the respect, jobs, and housing that they deserve. Morse mentions floating ballot box tops in the bay, late election results, etc. Hasn't anyone in this city heard of a "set up?" Ask Doris Ward, she'll tell you about the underhanded methods employed by those who wish to discredit the few blacks remaining in San Francisco's "official family." As Theresa Sparks of the Human Rights Commission pointed out in the letter to the *Chronicle*, even the benefits that are eligible for transgenders are still discriminatory, as they are the only benefits that have a time stipulation attached to them. Let's talk about pathetic.

Ms. Haygood had to submit a budget to the Board of Supervisors for her department. They approved her expenditures. So now it is all her fault? I don't think so. The election commissioners should be the ones who get fired. They acted behind closed doors, even while they know that we have a "sunshine ordinance." To this day they have yet to tell anyone exactly why they fired Ms. Haygood. She was entitled to have a public hearing around her firing as she requested, and that was denied. Why? If we have such a city deficit, then why did we pay for two high-priced lawyers to wake up a judge at night, so that the Elections Commission could prevent Haygood, who was reinstated by the Civil Service Commission, from returning to her job? We need to ask ourselves why is it so urgent to replace her before the upcoming election? Is it in preparation for more underhanded schemes and tactics? Why are we allowing the Elections Commission to waste more money and spin more drama? They have defeated the purpose for which the voters wanted them appointed in the first place — honesty and integrity.

This entire dramatization is showing the city's true transphobia, homophobia, and racism. Surprised? You shouldn't be. Just ask somebody of color.

This city should welcome Ms. Haygood back to her office, and get off of her back, after apologizing for all of the "dirt" that they have tried (unsuccessfully, I might add) to throw on her and her personal life. She had the first successful election in this city in years, and was praised by the secretary of state. As with wine and cheese, she can only get better with time. Let's give a Ms. Haygood a chance, and the time. There are many other challenges that face this city such as homelessness, keeping the city clean, and getting the tourists to return to the city.

Veronika Cauley, LVN
Commissioner of Veteran's Affairs
San Francisco

Freedom more precious than acceptance

It is astonishing to me that in 2002, after years of intra-community education and discussion about freedom, some still think their freedom has nothing to do with anyone but Ozzie and Harriet, and them ["Keep the Pride, ditch the parade," *OutRight*, July 11].

Dale Carpenter, your freedom to be gay is the same freedom I have to be offensive, if I so desire. You can not have one without the other. The real "human cost" is expended by those in our community, so self-absorbed, they have not one ounce of concern for the freedom of anyone else, (save lip service). Often, this ignorance isn't conscious. They are able to empathize only with their clones. Your freedom and my freedom are the same, though they may be expressed differently, and we may find each other's expressions "offensive" at times.

We have not struggled for 33 years for acceptance by society. We have struggled for freedom. Freedom is more precious than acceptance. The Pride celebrations are annual renewals of our claim to this freedom, boring, banal, and uncreative as they may be. Try exercising a lot more empathy, Dale, and you might understand there are 6 billion people also walking this planet who are very different from you. We each need the freedom to express any desire our uniqueness inspires.

Sister Vicious Power Hungry Bitch
San Francisco

POLITICS

Tax questions lead Simon to pull reversal and release returns

by Wayne Friday

Despite mounting criticism in the media, millionaire GOP gubernatorial nominee **Bill Simon** last week declined to provide details about investments now under investigation by the federal government.



GOP candidate Bill Simon

But the growing clamor over Simon's refusal to release his tax returns may have finally caught up with him. On Monday, Simon pulled an about-face and allowed reporters to examine hundreds of pages of his tax returns. The Simon campaign, however, placed several restrictions on journalists who wanted a look at the documents. The returns released, according to the Associated Press, did not include Simon's 2001 tax returns, as he filed an extension to file last year's forms, citing their complexity.

According to news reports, Simon's decision to allow reporters to get a glimpse of his tax returns follows one-on-one meetings among Simon's advisers and national Republican leaders at the Republican National Committee's summer meeting in San Francisco last week.

According to news reports Tuesday, Simon, a millionaire, has paid millions of dollars in state and federal taxes over the last 11 years. *San Francisco Chronicle* business columnist **David Lazarus**, however, noted that Simon's "ludicrous ground rules all but guaranteed that nothing would come of the late-afternoon effort [of reporters to review the tax returns] but frustration and a serious headache."

Up until this week, Simon has maintained that just because he is asking Californians to elect him governor is no reason he should have to automatically forfeit his financial privacy. The wealthy Los Angeles businessman apparently couldn't have picked a worse year to run for high public office merely on the lone theme that he's "a successful businessman," but then again an argument could be made that since he has no public record there is little else he can run on.

Simon says that voters should trust him and elect him anyway, because he has been, in his own words "a successful businessman." One political writer said recently: "From Enron to Xerox and

WorldCom, company shenanigans in the face of a collapsing stock market have made being a 'corporate executive' about as attractive and trusting a political identifier as a used-car salesman."

Simon's financial history has been kept alive in media accounts for months. Simon's opponent in the November election, Democratic Governor **Gray Davis**, has been hounding his rival to release his tax returns since April 15, when Davis released his. (Davis and his wife, **Sharon**, reported paying more than \$55,000 in state and federal taxes on income of \$200,351.)

There are other financial questions for Simon besides his tax returns. The *Wall Street Journal* has reported that candidate Simon's investment company has been taking advantage of questionable tax shelters designed by the KPMG accounting firm. The firm is now under investigation by the Internal Revenue Service for its possibly illegal tax shelters. In IRS court filings, Simon and his late multimillionaire father were among many who allegedly took advantage of what the U.S. attorney general's office has described as "off-shore" tax shelter transactions devised to exploit the complexity of the tax law to claim benefits Congress never intended. Simon was named in a suit charging that KPMG and another accounting firm "failed to provide all the documents the IRS has requested in connection with the probe."

While candidate Simon can boast until Election Day that he is "a successful businessman," one wonders how he could allow his family-owned investment banking firm, Western Federal Savings & Loan, to go into bankruptcy. The firm was seized by government regulators at a cost to taxpayers of more than \$92 million.

A candidate for governor or any other office who cannot run a firm his own father purchased for him without plunging it into bankruptcy, then finds his name listed in the *Wall Street Journal* along with others as being a beneficiary of a dubious tax shelter, probably should look long and hard for another campaign slogan, preferably one that doesn't point up his success, or lack of it, as a businessman.

Politics and people

Representative **Barney Frank** (D-Massachusetts) comes to Napa Valley next month (August 18) for two fundraisers for the newly-formed club, Democrats of Napa Valley. Frank will attend an afternoon reception at Rutherford Grove Winery, 1673 St. Helena Highway (\$50) and then speak at an elegant dinner in the evening at the Culinary Institute of America in Napa (\$250; 707-967-3302 for tax and info).

On August 5, 5-7 p.m., California Democratic Senators **Dianne Feinstein** and **Barbara Boxer**, Representative **Nancy Pelosi** (D-San Francisco), former Amba-

sador **James Hormel**, and San Francisco Symphony music director **Michael Tilson Thomas** will host a gala campaign kickoff party for 13th Assembly District Democratic nominee **Mark Leno** at Mecca Restaurant, 2029 Market (\$250; 415-395-9543 for info).

BART director **Tom Radulovich** will kick off his campaign for supervisor in District 8 on Monday, July 29, 5:30 -7:30 p.m., at Dolores Park Cafe, 501 Dolores Street.

Another District 8 sup candidate, **Bevan Duffy**, will host his kickoff event Thursday, August 1, 6-8 p.m., at his campaign headquarters, 2344 Market Street.

Deputy City Attorney **Sean Connolly**, candidate for Superior

Court judge in the November election, has the endorsements of Public Defender **Kimiko Burton** and her predecessor, former PD **Jeff Brown** as well as District Attorney **Terence Hallinan** and his predecessor, former DA **Arlo Smith**.

Then there's **Ross Mirkarimi**, an investigator in the District Attorney's office, and a founding member of the state's Green Party, writing an op-ed piece in the *San Francisco Examiner* bashing Gray Davis, **Bill Clinton**, and the rest of the Democratic Party for all the evils in the world, but not a word about the great Bush Republican Party (and haven't we seen this plan played out before?).

Meanwhile, those embarrassing billboards all over San Francisco sponsored by the city's Hotel Council aimed at shaming city leaders into possibly doing something about the growing homeless problem are getting national publicity. The clear message? San Francisco, the city of and for the nation's homeless.

Stop picking on George and Dick: President **George W. Bush** and Vice President **Dick Cheney** are focused on reviving the economy rather than the news media attention on their own past practices as corporate leaders, White House officials said last week. Administration officials said they are "frustrated" with news reports about business deals involving Bush and Cheney that have cast a shadow on White House efforts to champion corporate responsibility.

Longtime peace activist **Jerry Rubin**'s campaign for a seat on the Santa Monica City Council had the support of many San Francisco friends as well as the "Wednesday night president," West Wing actor **Martin Sheen**.

In Massachusetts, the Legislature last week killed a proposed ballot initiative to make same-sex marriages unconstitutional. Proponents had hoped the initiative would be put on the ballot in November 2004. Instead, a joint session of the Massachusetts House and Senate voted to adjourn immediately after convening without taking a vote on the initiative, effectively killing it. The measure,

next page ►

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Focus on merits, not trans status

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

It should come as no surprise that I am writing about Tammy Haygood.

Haygood has been fighting for her position as elections chief in San Francisco. Just over a week ago, the media added another wrinkle to this story, reporting that one of the reasons Haygood wants to regain her job is that so her husband can make use of the city's health benefits, specifically for transgender-related needs.

What may surprise you is that I'm not going to provide my own opinion of the case, nor am I going to write an impassioned column on the importance of transgender employment rights, or just how damned difficult it is to get and retain a job when one – or one you love – is transgendered. No, I'm not going to do that column, at least not this week. Instead, I want to look at the way the media has handled this particular facet of the story.

It was in the *San Francisco Chronicle* that I first heard about Haygood's husband. Phillip Matier and Andrew Ross – no strangers to writing about their dislike of San Francisco's transgender health benefit – brought this part of the story up in their column, presenting the information as if they had found the sole reason behind Haygood's fight to regain her job.

To their credit, Matier and Ross did mention that both Haygood and her attorney were not all that willing to discuss this issue, with concerns that it would detract from the merits of her case. That didn't stop Matier and Ross – or any other local or national media outlet – from adding this tidbit into the coverage whenever they could.

One of the less reputable, and substantially more biased, organizations to put out a piece on the Haygood case was the Traditional Values Coalition. I note also that the Traditional Values Coalition's article, while not completely cribbed from Matier and Ross, used a lot of similar phrasing as their column.

The Traditional Values Coalition's news release, obviously, fo-



ocused far more on the transgender aspect than any other media outlet: out of a mere 15 sentences, only one actually focused on the case. The rest dealt with the nature of Haygood's relationship, the gender status of her husband, and several attacks on – and I quote – "San Francisco's commitment to the promotion of gender confusion." That

Transmissions

quotation sounds like something that could be used to bolster San Francisco tourism, but I digress.

The real issue is this: the fact that Haygood's husband is a female to male transsexual is moot when one is discussing if Haygood is able to do her job, and if dismissing her without due process was appropriate. Would they bring it up if her husband needed city health benefits for any other medical need? No. Bringing up her husband is simply a way to add a salacious angle to the story, or to somehow try to discredit Haygood.

It is not rare to see the media use transgenderism in stories for those two reasons. I've certainly seen plenty of articles and news broadcasts over the years where otherwise professional journalists cast transgendered people as "shocking" or "bizarre." It is something I expect from *The Jerry Springer Show*, but should it come from MSNBC and their ilk?

Moreover, much of the time it is brought up, like perhaps in the Haygood case, it really bears no relevance to the issues at hand. It's not an issue that only happens to transgendered people, of course: there have been plenty of cases where the news has felt it impor-

tant to disclose if someone is gay, lesbian, or bisexual whether or not it has any relevance to the issues at hand. The media simply does not always need to disclose one's sexual orientation or gender identity.

That said, there are times when it's valuable to being seen as transgender, and times when the label is desirable, even vital, to what one does.

As someone who does work as a writer and activist focusing on transgender needs, it makes perfect sense for my own transgender status to be known.

The label can be used in other ways. This past week, an article in the *San Jose Mercury News* featured Fran Bennett, who used to work as a disk jockey at local stations KOME and KFOX, among other things. She is also a transsexual who did much of that work when she was still presenting as a man. The *Mercury News* article stirred up interest in getting her back on the air, and has allowed her to get a weeklong job with her old radio home, KFOX, filling in for another DJ.

In her case, the label helped: if there was not that transgendered angle to her story, it would be unlikely that the press would have pursued it.

There is a dangerous side to that, as Wendy Carlos, Carolyn "Tula" Cossey, and Renée Richards – among others – would attest to. Each of these women had been the subject of media attention related to their transgendered status, so much so that they may not be easily remembered as a groundbreaking musician, a professional model, and a tennis player (and doctor) respectively, but only as a transsexual. Once that information was out in the media, it was as if their gender status had been branded on their foreheads, not allowing people to look beyond this one aspect of their lives and judge these people based on their merits.

Isn't that also the case for Tammy Haygood? Because of her partner's transgender status, some want to focus on this issue rather than the merits of her case. In doing so, they do everyone a disservice. ▼

Gwen Smith doesn't even worry about the labels applied to her clothes. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at www.gwensmith.com.

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Our Man Friday

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which would also prohibit marriage benefits for same-sex unions, received 130,000 petition signatures last year, requiring the Legislature to consider putting it on the ballot.

In Michigan, a month after being ordained, a gay Protestant minister in Kalamazoo, the Reverend **Matthew Smucker**, faces removal from his post in the Church of Brethren. Church delegates from across the nation who met this month in Louisville, Kentucky, voted against letting gays

preach. State church officials are to meet next month to review that ruling. The vote confirms a decree in 1983 that gays should not be ministers.

My "Quote of the Week" comes from President Bush, in response to claims that he was involved in accounting improprieties in his financial dealings with Harken Energy. Bush: "In the corporate world, sometimes things aren't exactly black and white when it comes to accounting practices."

And how was your week? ▼

Got a political item? E-mail WayneFridaySF@aol.com.

COMMENTARY

Ditch the parade (part 2)

by Dale Carpenter

Not even the most reasoned and measured defense of the annual Pride parades is enough to justify them.

Two weeks ago in this space, I proposed that we end the annual Pride parades in the big cities. I argued the parades no longer serve a useful purpose since the big cities now have gay social and political institutions aplenty to foster the community and awareness the parades supposedly promote.

Worse, I argued, the big-city parades suffer a surfeit of posed bizarreness that, when highlighted on the nightly news, hurts gays in smaller cities and rural areas by reinforcing anti-gay stereotypes.

I suggested instead that we have annual park festivals with information booths and entertainment, which would decrease media coverage and therefore reduce the incentive for attention-getting theatrics.

I got an unusually large number of replies to that column, most of them (to my surprise) positive. It seems there are many out-and-proud gays who question the value of the annual parades yet rarely find their perspective expressed in gay media.

One very thoughtful correspondent, however, defended the parades. His views deserve an airing and a response.

His first defense of the parades is that we should hold them because of the weirdness they put on display, not despite it. "In my experience," he writes, "it is prudeness that hurts small-town gays, not weirdness. One of the more powerful results of Pride events, and indeed of the entire coming out experience, is a breakdown of the prude conventions [against public nudity, for example] that hinder personal and emotional development. ... Although backlashes and reactionary reprisals will be unavoidable, people will be glad in the end not to have to feel

so dirty about their bodies."

It's fun sport to mock our society's conventions and many of them indeed seem unnecessary and stupid. On the other hand, some of our social/sexual conventions are valuable. Marriage, for example, is a good predictor of a couple's happiness and durability (which is why gays should fight to get it). The social expectation that people should marry is therefore useful.

We shouldn't reject all conventions just because some are silly. In fact, their stabilizing effect on life could be especially beneficial to gays, who have been tragically excluded from many social institutions.

Maybe it's necessary to eliminate the taboo against, say, public nudity so we don't feel badly about our bodies. I don't know. But anyway, why is this part of a gay agenda, rather than some other agenda?

One can imagine a pretty satisfactory world in which gays can marry, join the military, have sex in the privacy of a home—that is, have equality with straights—but yet (like straights) can't let it all hang out at the corner of Main and Elm.

My correspondent's second defense of the parades is that ending them wouldn't much benefit us. He writes: "It is folly to think that by tailoring our sexual identities and their outward expressions we can somehow gain acceptance within Middle America. ... Need I remind you that drag queens, not *Will & Grace*, were the ones who fought against police brutality and paved the way for more passable gays like you and me to demand our fair and equitable treatment under the law? Now that a few of the queers have achieved some power within greater society, we cannot simply declare ourselves normal like everybody else in order to placate the prude conventions of our day."

This passage perfectly summarizes the conventional wisdom nowadays among politically aware, progressive gays. Its oft-re-

peated version of history—that "drag queens" gave us the gay rights movement—is demonstrably false. Stonewall was not solely a riot of drag queens and, at any rate, was preceded by years of decidedly non-drag activism.

More to the point, the heart of this argument—that we shouldn't conform just to meet others' expectations—is true but irrelevant. I don't argue we should conform to mainstream social norms in order to be accepted.

I argue that most of us already live comfortably with most such norms. It's part of who we are, since we are not aliens. We're quite normal, thank you. And there's nothing wrong with that.

The parades, as portrayed in small-town America, give the mistaken impression there are far more of us who are strangers to mainstream values than there really are. Ending the parades will help stop the spread of a lie. Why are some people in this movement so invested in propagating the myth of alienation?

The irony here is that outlandish public behavior at the parades is itself a sad conformity to social expectations. The anti-gays expect us to behave bizarrely since, as everyone knows, we lack self-control.

Doing something only because you're not supposed to do it is not an expression of some deep inner identity; it is an act that owes its expressive power to the very conventions it mocks. It could not exist without them.

The displays of weirdness at the Pride parades only scream, "Hey, look at me!" These are not the cries of rebels critiquing social norms, but of minstrels performing for the crowd's amusement.

The real non-conformists, the ones behaving truly inappropriately, are those gay-suburbanite couples waving their joint mortgages. But since a procession of them would be terminally boring, better to end the parades. ▼

Dale Carpenter is a law professor. He can be reached at OutRight@aol.com.



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AIDS 'czar'

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mains "concerned about public funds going to 'abstinence-only' programs to reduce transmission of HIV and STDs [sexually transmitted diseases]. Not only has this approach proven to be far less effective than programs that also include safe-sex education, these programs demand 'abstinence until marriage'—a Catch-22 for same-sex couples who are denied that right."

Local reaction

Although Evertz had visited San Francisco in the spring, and at the time had spoken in support of the Stop AIDS Project, which had come under attack by conservatives in Washington, local AIDS activists reacted with basically a shrug at the announcement he was being replaced.

"The Stop AIDS Project appreciated Scott's support for our work, but I think anyone in that job who really listens to our community here in San Francisco, and what gay men want from a prevention agency, would have said the exact same thing," said Darlene Weide, the agency's executive director.

Fred Dillon, a public policy di-

rector at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, added that with Bush in office, it really does not matter who holds the position of AIDS czar.

"Regardless of how the Bush administration reshuffles the players, the reality is this administration has been high on rhetoric and short on action," said Dillon. "I hope there is a change with Dr. O'Neill taking on this position. But given the track record of this administration, I don't have high hopes of that."

While Weide said her agency is hopeful that O'Neill's background as a practicing physician will encourage him to also support cutting edge HIV prevention efforts, she remains convinced AIDS agencies will continue to face criticism if they take an open-minded approach to HIV prevention.

"I think as long as this administration is in office, the Stop AIDS Project will continue to be criticized by conservative politicians in Washington who don't want to acknowledge our workshops and events are the right approach to prevention and the direct response to what our community has asked for," she said.

Human Rights Campaign spokesman David Smith claimed, "The pro-abstinence crowd with-

in the administration is carrying the day."

HRC believes that Evertz's pro-gay and pro-prevention stances made him a target of the right and he was moved aside by conservatives within the administration such as Patricia Ware.

The main problem with that interpretation, some said, is that the Bush White House has turned a deaf ear to the rantings of groups such as the Family Research Council. And latest reports are that Ware herself is being reassigned from here duties as executive director of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS, though that change has not yet been finalized.

Martin was "surprised" to learn that Ware will be leaving. "I have no criticism of Pat and her work. Even if our perspectives were different, she listened and she invited us into conversations."

Perhaps the biggest factor behind Evertz's move is that he simply did not seem to be a good fit for the job. One initial knock on his appointment was that he came to Washington with limited knowledge of government funded HIV programs and the policies and personalities that dominated the action. He seemed to make insufficient progress in mastering control of those details. ▼

The Urban Men's Health Study

Five years ago, nearly 3000 gay and bisexual men in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago and New York were part of a ground-breaking national health telephone survey.

Three years ago, these men participated in a phone survey on tobacco use, a health problem that especially impacts the LGBT community.

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Katz helps Yale go gay

by Matthew S. Bajko

After overseeing the nation's first queer studies program at City College in San Francisco, Jonathan Katz will now help Yale University implement the first queer studies program at an Ivy League institution.

"This will put queer studies on a different foot nationally because an institution like Yale is vouching for it," said Katz.

The dream of openly gay Yale alumnus Larry Kramer, who fought with his alma mater for more than five years to create the program, it will launch this fall when Katz becomes the executive director of the Larry Kramer Initiative for Lesbian and Gay Studies.

"I will be building a full-fledged, multidimensional program and bringing in visiting faculty in queer studies," said Katz, who will also be an associate research professor in art history and women's and gender studies at Yale. "I will also be re-instituting national and international queer studies conferences that started at Yale in 1989 but ran out of steam in the 1990s."

Kramer, who graduated from Yale in 1957, went on to become a celebrated playwright and a founder of both the Gay Men's Health Crisis and the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power. Now living in the Pittsburgh area, he is still a pioneer in the AIDS community, becoming one of the few AIDS patients to receive a liver transplant earlier this year.

In April 2001, Yale announced that Kramer had agreed to give his



Jonathan Katz will oversee gay and lesbian studies at Yale.

papers to the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, and that his brother, Arthur Kramer, also a Yale alumnus, was giving \$1 million for a Larry Kramer Initiative for Lesbian and Gay Studies. The announcement ended a stalemate over an earlier bequest of \$4 million to Yale with which Kramer wanted the university to create endowed professorships in lesbian and gay studies.

Those talks ended with Yale rejecting the money, arguing the field was still in its infancy and did not warrant such a designation, and Kramer calling the university homophobic. The episode also strained relations between Yale and other gay and lesbian alumni.

"At that time, I think there was a lot of angry hostility and feelings of maybe rejection from Yale for not accepting Larry's very generous gift at that time," explained Tom Burke,

who serves on the national board of Yale's gay and lesbian alumni association and chairs the Bay Area chapter. "Now the situation is quite different and we really have turned a corner in terms of gay and lesbian alumni support for Yale."

Burke, who is helping Katz raise additional funding for the new queer studies program, said there is much interest among the 1,000 members of the alumni association in how the new initiative unfolds and takes shape.

"I feel a renewed interest and vigor among many gay and lesbian alumni for supporting this new initiative and for adding to the cornerstone that Larry's laid," said Burke.

Yale couldn't have found a more qualified applicant than Katz to head the new initiative. In 1991 Katz became the nation's first tenured faculty member in queer studies at City College and became chair of the program in 1994. He also founded the Harvey Milk Institute and was hired last year by the State University of New York at Stonybrook to create a queer studies program.

The first students will not enroll in Yale's program until spring 2003 and Katz is already planning to hold the first international queer studies conference in either April or May of next year. He will also be building up the program's collection of papers and research materials.

"I will be working closely with student organizations to ensure there is a healthy queer campus life," said Katz, who will also teach an introductory course on queer studies. ▼

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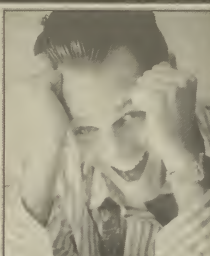
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KALETRA should not be taken if you have had an allergic reaction to KALETRA or any of its ingredients.

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Pancreatitis and liver problems, which may cause death, have been

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reported in patients receiving KALETRA. Tell your doctor if you have or have had liver disease such as hepatitis. Your doctor may want to monitor your liver function. In patients taking protease inhibitors, increased bleeding (in patients with hemophilia) and diabetes/high blood sugar have occurred. Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients receiving antiretroviral therapy. Some patients receiving KALETRA have had large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol.

The most commonly reported side effects of moderate or severe intensity are: abnormal bowel movements, diarrhea, feeling weak or tired, headache, and nausea. Children most often reported diarrhea, rash, taste aversion, and vomiting.

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol.

Please see adjacent page for Patient Information.

KALETRA™
(lopinavir/ritonavir) capsules
(lopinavir/ritonavir) oral solution

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with KALETRA. Please also read the section "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

Patient Information

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Read this leaflet carefully before you start taking KALETRA. Also, read it each time you get your KALETRA prescription refilled, in case something has changed. This information does not take the place of talking with your doctor when you start this medicine and at check ups. Ask your doctor if you have any questions about KALETRA.

What is KALETRA and how does it work?

KALETRA is a combination of two medicines. They are lopinavir and ritonavir. KALETRA is a type of medicine called an HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) protease (PRO-tee-ase) inhibitor. KALETRA is always used in combination with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. KALETRA is for adults and for children age 6 months and older.

HIV infection destroys CD4 (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. After a large number of T cells are destroyed, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) develops.

KALETRA blocks HIV protease, a chemical which is needed for HIV to multiply. KALETRA reduces the amount of HIV in your blood and increases the number of T cells. Reducing the amount of HIV in the blood reduces the chance of death or infections that happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

Does KALETRA cure HIV or AIDS?

KALETRA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. The long-term effects of KALETRA are not known at this time. People taking KALETRA may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections.

Does KALETRA reduce the risk of passing HIV to others?

KALETRA does not reduce the risk of passing HIV to others through sexual contact or blood contamination. Continue to practice safe sex and do not use or share dirty needles.

How should I take KALETRA?

- You should stay under a doctor's care when taking KALETRA. Do not change your treatment or stop treatment without first talking with your doctor.
- You must take KALETRA every day exactly as your doctor prescribed it. The dose of KALETRA may be different for you than for other patients. Follow the directions from your doctor, exactly as written on the label.
- Dosing in adults (including children 12 years of age and older): The usual dose for adults is 3 capsules (400/100 mg) or 5.0 mL of the oral solution twice a day (morning and night), in combination with other anti-HIV medicines.
- Dosing in children from 6 months to 12 years of age: Children from 6 months to 12 years of age can also take KALETRA. The child's doctor will decide the right dose based on the child's weight.
- Take KALETRA with food to help it work better.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking KALETRA without first talking with your doctor.
- When your KALETRA supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy. This is very important because the amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time. The virus may develop resistance to KALETRA and become harder to treat.
- Be sure to set up a schedule and follow it carefully.
- Only take medicine that has been prescribed specifically for you. Do not give KALETRA to others or take medicine prescribed for someone else.

What should I do if I miss a dose of KALETRA?

It is important that you do not miss any doses. If you miss a dose of KALETRA, take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If it is almost time for your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose.

What happens if I take too much KALETRA?

If you suspect that you took more than the prescribed dose of this medicine, contact your local poison control center or emergency room immediately.

As with all prescription medicines, KALETRA should be kept out of the reach of young children. KALETRA liquid contains a large amount of alcohol. If a toddler or young child accidentally drinks more than the recommended dose of KALETRA, it could make him/her sick from too much alcohol. Contact your

local poison control center or emergency room immediately if this happens.

Who should not take KALETRA?

Together with your doctor, you need to decide whether KALETRA is right for you.

- Do not take KALETRA if you are taking certain medicines. These could cause serious side effects that could cause death. Before you take KALETRA, you must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or are planning to take. These include other prescription and non-prescription medicines and herbal supplements.

For more information about medicines you should not take with KALETRA, please read the section titled "MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA."

- Do not take KALETRA if you have an allergy to KALETRA or any of its ingredients, including ritonavir or lopinavir.

Can I take KALETRA with other medications?*

KALETRA may interact with other medicines, including those you take without a prescription. You must tell your doctor about all the medicines you are taking or planning to take before you take KALETRA.

MEDICINES YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE WITH KALETRA:

- Do not take the following medicines with KALETRA because they can cause serious problems or death if taken with KALETRA.
 - Dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine and methylexgonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, Ergotrate Maleate, Methergine, and others
 - Halcion® (triazolam)
 - Hismanal® (astemizole)
 - Orap® (pimozide)
 - Propulsid® (cisapride)
 - Rythmol® (propafenone)
 - Seldane® (terfenadine)
 - Tambocor™ (flecainide)
 - Versed® (midazolam)
- Do not take KALETRA with rifampin, also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®. Rifampin may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.
- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.
- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

- Do not take KALETRA with St. John's wort (hypericum perforatum), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take St. John's wort. Taking St. John's wort may decrease KALETRA levels and lead to increased viral load and possible resistance to KALETRA or cross-resistance to other anti-HIV medicines.
- Do not take KALETRA with the cholesterol-lowering medicines Mevacor® (lovastatin) or Zocor® (simvastatin) because of possible serious reactions. There is also an increased risk of drug interactions between KALETRA and Lipitor® (atorvastatin); talk to your doctor before you take any of these cholesterol-reducing medicines with KALETRA.

Medicines that require dosage adjustments:

It is possible that your doctor may need to increase or decrease the dose of other medicines when you are also taking KALETRA. Remember to tell your doctor all medicines you are taking or plan to take.

Before you take Viagra® (sildenafil) with KALETRA, talk to your doctor about problems these two medicines can cause when taken together. You may get increased side effects of VIAGRA, such as low blood pressure, vision changes, and penis erection lasting more than 4 hours. If an erection lasts longer than 4 hours, get medical help right away to avoid permanent damage to your penis. Your doctor can explain these symptoms to you.

- If you are taking oral contraceptives ("the pill") to prevent pregnancy, you should use an additional or different type of contraception since KALETRA may reduce the effectiveness of oral contraceptives.
- Efavirenz (Sustiva™) or nevirapine (Viramune®) may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood. Your doctor may increase your dose of KALETRA if you are also taking efavirenz or nevirapine.
- If you are taking Mycobutin® (rifabutin), your doctor will lower the dose of Mycobutin.

A change in therapy should be considered if you are taking KALETRA with:
Phenobarbital
Phenytoin (Dilantin® and others)
Carbamazepine (Tegretol® and others)
These medicines may lower the amount of KALETRA in your blood and make it less effective.

Other Special Considerations:

KALETRA oral solution contains alcohol. Talk with your doctor if you are taking or planning to take metronidazole or disulfiram. Severe nausea and vomiting can occur.

- **If you are taking both didanosine (Videx®) and KALETRA:** Didanosine (Videx®) should be taken one hour before or two hours after KALETRA.

What are the possible side effects of KALETRA?

This list of side effects is not complete. If you have questions about side effects, ask your doctor, nurse, or pharmacist. You should report any new

or continuing symptoms to your doctor right away. Your doctor may be able to help you manage these side effects.

- The most commonly reported side effects of moderate severity that are thought to be drug related are: abnormal stools (bowel movements), diarrhea, feeling weak/tired, headache, and nausea. Children taking KALETRA may sometimes get a skin rash.
- Blood tests in patients taking KALETRA may show possible liver problems. People with liver disease such as Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C who take KALETRA may have worsening liver disease. Liver problems including death have occurred in patients taking KALETRA. In studies, it is unclear if KALETRA caused these liver problems because some patients had other illnesses or were taking other medicines.
- Some patients taking KALETRA can develop serious problems with their pancreas (pancreatitis), which may cause death. You have a higher chance of having pancreatitis if you have had it before. Tell your doctor if you have nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain. These may be signs of pancreatitis.
- Some patients have large increases in triglycerides and cholesterol. The long-term chance of getting complications such as heart attacks or stroke due to increases in triglycerides and cholesterol caused by protease inhibitors is not known at this time.
- Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia) occur in patients taking protease inhibitors such as KALETRA. Some patients had diabetes before starting protease inhibitors, others did not. Some patients need changes in their diabetes medicine. Others needed new diabetes medicine.
- Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking antiretroviral therapy. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.
- Some patients with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors.
- There have been other side effects in patients taking KALETRA. However, these side effects may have been due to other medicines that patients were taking or to the illness itself. Some of these side effects can be serious.

What should I tell my doctor before taking KALETRA?

- **If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant:** The effects of KALETRA on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known.
- **If you are breast-feeding:** Do not breast-feed if you are taking KALETRA. You should not breast-feed if you have HIV. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby. You should be aware that if your baby does not already have HIV, there is a chance that HIV can be transmitted through breast-feeding.
- **If you have liver problems:** If you have liver problems or are infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, you should tell your doctor before taking KALETRA.
- **If you have diabetes:** Some people taking protease inhibitors develop new or more serious diabetes or high blood sugar. Tell your doctor if you have diabetes or an increase in thirst or frequent urination.
- **If you have hemophilia:** Patients taking KALETRA may have increased bleeding.

How do I store KALETRA?

- Keep KALETRA and all other medicines out of the reach of children.
- Refrigerated KALETRA capsules and oral solution remain stable until the expiration date printed on the label. If stored at room temperature up to 77°F (25°C), KALETRA capsules and oral solution should be used within 2 months.
- Avoid exposure to excessive heat.

Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Be sure that if you throw any medicine away, it is out of the reach of children.

General advice about prescription medicines:

Talk to your doctor or other health care provider if you have any questions about this medicine or your condition. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information Leaflet. If you have any concerns about this medicine, ask your doctor. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you information about this medicine that was written for health care professionals. Do not use this medicine for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not share this medicine with other people.

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Dore Alley tea dance benefits AIDS hospice

by Matthew S. Bajko

To help raise money for a local AIDS hospice, attendees of the Up Your Alley Fair this Sunday, July 28 are invited to a tea dance following the event. Called "Play" and presented by PTyronepresents, the dance party will help raise funds for Maitri.

Partygoers are encouraged to bring their playful and sexy spirits to the Glaskat immediately following the Up Your Alley Fair. The party's theme is "Engage You Desires. Bring Your Toys."

"The origin of the name is for them to enjoy themselves in the context of Dore Alley. So we are going for the S&M and leather scenes," explained the party's promoter P. Tyrone Smith, who also produces the Rising parties. "We want the guys to bring blindfolds and flaggers to bring what they like to play with. If they know the hankie code to bring their hankie with them."

"Vanilla toys are okay too. It is not strictly an S&M party," he added.

San Francisco DJ Jeff Johnson will spin in what is expected to be his final full-length set in the city. Johnson, who has worked the turntables at Universe, Pleasure-dome, and Powerhouse, will be moving to Fort Lauderdale, Florida in the fall.

A minimum of \$1 from every ticket sold for Play will be donated to Maitri, a 15-bed residential hospice facility for low-income people

living with debilitating AIDS, situated at the corner of Church Street and Duboce Avenue. The facility provides compassionate residential care to men and women in need of hospice or 24-hour care.

"Potentially I can raise about \$1,000. Depending on the turnout, I can give more. The space holds around 700 people or so," said Smith.

The dance will take place Sunday, July 28 from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Glaskat, 520 4th Street at Bryant. Admission is \$15 before 6:30 p.m. or \$20 after.

Tickets can be purchased prior to the event for \$10 at the retail outlets The Barking Frog, Body Body Wear, and Mr. S. Leather or online at www.ptyronepresents.com. ▼

Report backs from Barcelona AIDS confab

by Cynthia Laird

Several Bay Area organizations are hosting free report back community forums to discuss developments at the XIV International AIDS Conference that was held in Barcelona, Spain earlier this month.

On Tuesday, July 30, the Co-nant Foundation, in association with the University of California, San Francisco AIDS Research Institute and Project Inform, will host its report back at the LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market Street. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; the session takes place from 6-9 p.m. Light refreshments will be

served. Topics include treatment updates, resistance, prevention challenges, and lipotrophy. People should RSVP by Monday, July 29 and can call (415) 597-UCSF or e-mail rsvp@psg.ucsf.edu.

In the East Bay, Project Inform and Positive Education and Treatment will host a report back on Wednesday, July 31 at Chevy's restaurant at Bayfair Mall, off of Fairmont Boulevard near the Bayfair BART station, in San Leandro. The event starts with dinner at 6 p.m., followed by the presentation from 6:30-8 p.m. Featured speakers include Project Inform's Martin Delaney, Health GAP member John Iversen, and Mike Allerton with Kaiser Permanente. For

reservations or information, call (510) 667-3937.

"African Americans Taking Charge: Healing the Village" is a free AIDS update that is scheduled for Wednesday, August 14, at 6:30 p.m. at Nile Hall in Preservation Park, 668 13th Street, in downtown Oakland. Refreshments will be served. Speakers will include Dr. Robert Scott, Dr. Lisha Wilson, Project Inform's Delaney, and Adimika Meadows. The event is sponsored by African American AIDS Support Services and Survival Institute in association with the African American AIDS Policy and Training Institute. For more information, call (510) 588-5930. ▼

Germany upholds same-sex 'marriage' law

by Zak Szymanski

Almost a year ago, Berlin residents Gudrun Pannier and Angelika Baldow became the first lesbian couple to marry under Germany's newly enacted law that recognizes same-sex couples.

Since then, the law has been under attack, but the legal challenges were put to rest last Wednesday, July 17, when the country's Federal Constitutional Court ruled 5-3 to uphold same-sex marriage.

The legal complaint, brought by the German states of Bavaria, Saxony, and Thuringen, claimed that the law violated the constitution by failing to protect the family unit.

But the law, although referred to as gay marriage, actually falls short of bestowing all the legal rights and responsibilities of het-

erosexual unions. Gay couples may register, are entitled to inheritance, immigration rights, and health insurance, and must file for divorce to dissolve their partnership, but they do not enjoy the same tax and welfare benefits, and cannot legally adopt children.

Still, for a country best known as the site of the Hitler regime and the mass execution of Jews, homosexuals, and other groups, the law is seen by activists as a huge step forward, particularly now that the high court has affirmed it.

"It is the fulfillment of a dream," said Pannier after her ceremony last year, "but it is just the beginning. We haven't got equal rights yet."

The law was the result of years of activism and advocacy, and was championed by Germany's Green Party and supported by a Social Democrat coalition. A more ex-

tensive version passed Germany's lower house of Parliament in 2000, and the current version passed the upper house shortly thereafter. It took effect in August 2001.

Since Pannier's wedding, about 4,400 gay couples have married under the law, and it is assumed that many more have been waiting for the final court decision before tying the knot. Although earlier rulings by the Constitutional Court ordered all states to implement the law, some states had refused to do so.

The German court decision came just days before an annual ceremony marked the anniversary of the best known attempt at overthrowing the Nazis. On Saturday, July 20, Germany's new defense minister Peter Struck told hundreds of soldiers that they should follow the example of those who tried to stop the Nazis in the name of peace. ▼

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Rainbow Housing seeks new director

Mitulski to return to LGBT religious work

by Zak Szymanski

Six months after taking on the position as Rainbow Adult Community Housing's first executive director, the Reverend Jim Mitulski has announced his departure.

RACH – the only mixed-income multi-use LGBT senior housing community planned for San Francisco – is now in the process of seeking another executive director to continue the gains that were made under Mitulski's

short tenure, according to RACH chair Dr. Marcy Adelman.

"Jim's work has inspired us and many others," said a statement from Adelman. "RACH is now well-positioned to move ahead."

Mitulski, who in December 2000 retired after 15 years of serving as pastor of the Castro's Metropolitan Community Church, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that being removed from LGBT religious work has allowed him to reflect on it and realize he would like to return to it full-time.

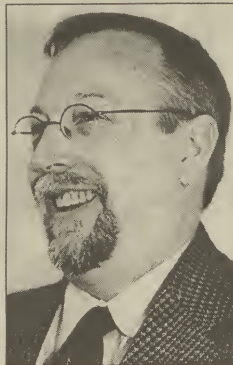
"The very same thing that I

found painful about the work is the very same thing drawing me back," said Mitulski, who served MCC-SF throughout the AIDS epidemic and found himself emotionally spent when he left. Since his departure, he has worked at the San Francisco Public Library and began a part-time stint at MCC of the Redwood Empire in Guerneville before taking on the RACH position.

"In a sense what brought me back was an awareness of how the HIV issue really brings everything together around race, class, age, and gender. And I'm ready to do that work full-time again – something that really uses my religious background and experience. We end up going where we're called, and I am open to moving as well."

Mitulski also said that despite his recent personal revelation, his time at RACH was well worth it.

"I love Rainbow Housing. It's



The Reverend Jim Mitulski

the coolest thing. I feel so strongly about what they're trying to do, and I think we did a lot in the six months I was there," he said.

In the past year, RACH has been able to successfully advocate toward acquisition of a Hayes Val-

ley building site; develop a comprehensive service plan that will address health, wellness, and social services for seniors on site; and secure significant funding for the project, including grants from the Haas Fund, the San Francisco Foundation, the Mayor's Office of Housing and Community Development, Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights, and the state of California.

"We are gratified to have come so far so quickly," said Adelman. "We intend to move forward toward the organization's goal of offering much needed housing and services for LGBT seniors who wish to live in our city and continue their active involvement in San Francisco."

Those interested in the executive director position should contact Adelman via e-mail at SFRACH@aol.com or call (415) 861-1637. ▼

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by Cynthia Laird

Deciding to ask San Francisco voters to weigh in on the matter of medicinal marijuana, Supervisor Mark Leno on Monday, July 22 submitted a ballot measure for the November election that effectively asks residents whether the city should "grow its own" pot.

Leno said that he's placing the question before voters because of stepped up actions by federal authorities over medicinal marijuana, including recent raids on local cannabis dispensaries and harassment of medical cannabis providers.

"I want the citizens to weigh in," Leno told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The ballot measure asks voters whether the Board of Supervisors, in conjunction with the mayor's office, city attorney, district attorney, and Department of Public Health, shall "explore the possibility of establishing a program whereby the city would grow medical cannabis and distribute it

to patients attempting to exercise their rights under Proposition 215, California's Compassionate Use Act of 1996."

The ballot measure is merely a "declaration of policy," Leno said, and its passage would not necessarily result in city-sponsored pot gardens sprouting up, though Leno said he hopes that the city could implement the plan if voters approve it.

"San Franciscans overwhelmingly approved Proposition 215 back in 1996 as a means for getting sick and dying patients the medicine they need to fortify and sustain their lives," Leno said. "If the federal government insists on standing in our way locally, we must take matters into our own hands to protect the lives of community members, and protect their right to access life-saving medicine."

"The Drug Enforcement Administration's continued assault on our local medical cannabis clubs begs the question of where and how our citizens can access their medicine," Leno added.

The federal government does

not recognize cannabis as having any medical value.

Last week, however, the California Supreme Court ruled unanimously that seriously ill patients who use medical cannabis have legal protection from prosecution under state law [see story, page 1].

Staff at the San Francisco Patients' Resource Center, one of several medical marijuana clubs in operation, said Leno's measure is long overdue.

"We've been talking about this for months and months," staff member Gary Farnsworth told the *B.A.R.* He added that the club has talked with the city attorney's office and district attorney's office, among others, in trying to get San Francisco to implement such a program.

"We support Supervisor Leno 100 percent," Farnsworth added.

The city charter allows four or five supervisors to place a matter on the ballot. In this case, Leno was joined by Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano, and Supervisors Matt Gonzalez and Sophie Maxwell. ▼

Medical pot

◀ page 1

dants can reasonably show that they use the drug solely for medical reasons, for example by presenting a note from a doctor. The

Fresno appeals court had previously ruled that defendants must provide a "preponderance of evidence" to indicate that their cannabis use is medicinal.

Mower's attorney, Gerald Uelmen, predicted that the ruling would result in fewer prosecutions and more acquittals for people who use medical cannabis.

"It is a wonderful victory for patients," he said.

"As a supporter of Proposition 215, I believe that the court's decision strikes an appropriate balance in helping to ensure that truly needy patients whose doctors have recommended medical marijuana to alleviate pain and suffering related to serious illnesses will have access to this medicine under California law," said state Attorney General Bill Lockyer.

While Lockyer said that the ruling provides "much-needed guidance" in interpreting the state law, the Supreme Court declined to address specific regulations imposed by some cities and counties, such as

those regarding permissible numbers of plants or requiring a patient identification card. A bill now before the state Legislature would set uniform statewide standards and procedures for medicinal marijuana use.

In May 2001, in a decision relating to Northern California medical cannabis clubs, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that marijuana has no recognized medical use and that the medical necessity defense may not be used by cannabis providers.

However, the federal high court ruled narrowly, and some medical cannabis advocates believe it left open several avenues for further constitutional challenge, including questions about interstate commerce, the federal government's right to interfere with state laws and health policies, and whether an individual patient may use the medical necessity defense. The California high court said the federal Supreme Court ruling had no bearing on last Thursday's decision. ▼

OBITUARIES

Gary L. Frueauf
1940 — 2002

Arizona. Gary received his MSW in 1964

Gary lived in San Francisco since 1990 and died suddenly in his home on Thursday, July 18, 2002 from complications following heart surgery. He was born in Dayton, Ohio and lived later in Phoenix, Arizona. Gary received his MSW in 1964

from Ohio State University and spent the rest of his professional life devoting his talents and energies to helping families and children. He held a number of management positions in both Dayton and Phoenix Departments of Social Services; in The City he became a respected Section Manager for Family and Children's Services. He loved his work and adored his colleagues.

Gary is survived by his mother, two sons, a daughter-in-law and two grandchildren. He was devoted to his family and visited them frequently. Gary made friends easily. He was a joy and inspira-

tion to all of his many gay and straight friends, a loving and supportive person. Last Sunday at sunset his ashes were released into the Ocean after a celebration in Tiburon.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests you make a contribution to the Youth Guidance Center or your favorite charity.

Edwin "Teddy" Hirschfield
1919 — 2002

Edwin "Teddy" Hirschfield passed away peacefully Saturday, July 20th at



his San Francisco home after a lengthy illness. Teddy was born in New York City in 1919, attended college in New Hampshire, and had a successful career in New York City and Los Angeles before moving to San Francisco in 1972. He worked for many years at UC Berkeley from where he eventually retired. A man who enjoyed life, was a devoted theatre goer, Teddy left no known relatives, but was especially thankful for and appreciative of his special friends who cared so lovingly for him during his long illness: Rick Carlson, Rob Cottoman, Ken Irvine, Richard Kuttner, Mikey McColigan, Tim Durning and Wayne Friday. As per his request, no services are planned, but Teddy Hirschfield will be sadly missed by all who ever knew him. Rest in peace, dear friend.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization — and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.

Bill Plath dies

◀ page 1

all sorts of things. It was a pleasure doing that."

Glued license to wall

During the late 1950s and early 1960s gay bars were constantly harassed by the Alcoholic Beverage Control agency. The average life of a gay bar was between two and three years. They were closed on vague rulings about touching or kissing or other absurd observations from supposedly undercover agents, noted Bob Ross, publisher of the *Bay Area Reporter* and a longtime friend of Mr. Plath's. The ABC often arrived at a pre-announced time to take the license back. Mr. Plath was a rarity in the city: a gay man owning and operating a gay bar, Ross recalled.

"He was also a fighter. He glued the license to the wall and shellacked over it so when the ABC arrived they could not remove the license. They closed the bar anyway," Ross said.

This use of bars for informal community-building became formalized in 1962. In that year, a group of bar owners and bartenders that gathered together weekly to socialize organized themselves as the Tavern Guild, San Francisco's (and the nation's) first incorporated gay business organization. The Tavern Guild held events for an increasingly visible and vocal gay community. As Mr. Plath remembered it, "We had auctions and benefits to raise money for somebody who'd been injured or who needed legal support. It didn't matter what the cause was, we'd raise money for it. We'd also sponsor a gay picnic, once or twice a year, usually in Marin County."

The Tavern Guild also hosted the largest gay party in the city: the annual Halloween Beaux Arts Ball. The event started out small, but eventually wound up at the Civic Auditorium. It also made use of all the major hotels' ballrooms. This was a drag ball to end all drag balls, Ross said, adding that the event annually had \$5,000 in prize money and lasted for more than 25 years.

The Opera Club was located on Gough Street between Grove and McAllister. It was a full liquor bar and restaurant. Mr. Plath also brought back Jose Sarria and his operas for Sunday brunch. Ross cooked the food and Sarria served brunch. Afterwards, Sarria would perform one of his famous "Black Cat" operas to a packed house.

The Orpheum Circus was a bar located in the building on Market Street that today houses the Orpheum Theatre. It became a haven for auctions, shows, and many other community fundraising efforts, and was a successful bar.

In 1957, Mr. Plath and his partner Dick Rousseau bought a Victorian house on Grove Street, at a time when these dwellings were not the hot properties that they've since become. (The down payment was a whopping \$1,000.) They later became members of the Alamo Square Neighborhood Association and Victorian Alliance.



From left, Bill Plath; Bill Brunski, center; and Dick Rousseau in an undated photo in San Francisco.

Over the years, Mr. Plath and Mr. Rousseau hosted many civic events at their home. Mayoral candidates George Moscone, Milton Marks, and Dianne Feinstein all came to Grove Street to learn the concerns of the gay community and seek an endorsement. The house was also legendary for its elegant annual Christmas party, a tradition for over 40 years, and for the many artifacts Mr. Plath and Mr. Rousseau collected throughout a lifetime of world travel. In his later years, Mr. Plath became known as the friendly man on the front stoop, happy to invite neighbors and tourists in for a personal tour of his home and a chat about San Francisco history.

SIR founder

In 1964, Mr. Plath was among the founders of SIR, which formed at a meeting in his home on Grove Street. In a short amount of time, SIR would come to be the "largest active homosexual organization in the world." The group drafted an early Homosexual Bill of Rights, and advocated for gays and lesbians both through established channels, such as voter registration or a lawsuit brought against the Berkeley Police after one of their officers murdered a gay man, as well as through civil disobedience at the Federal Building, the state Capitol, and other prominent locations. SIR's activities ranged the entire gamut of gay social concerns, from counseling, venereal disease prevention, blood banks, senior care and meetings for gay alcoholics, to classes on arts and crafts, karate, and sign language.

SIR also published *Vector*, a nationally distributed magazine for which Mr. Plath penned an advice column under the name Tequila Mockingbird. Through the Tavern Guild and SIR, Mr. Plath helped educate law enforcement, civic leaders, and clergy, including former Sheriff Richard Hongisto, the Reverend Cecil Williams, and then-Assemblyman Willie Brown about the needs of gay and lesbian San Franciscans. Brown's request

for an endorsement from a gay group marked the first time a politician had sought out the votes of gays and lesbians, a pivotal moment in the history of gay politics.

After retiring from the bar business, Mr. Plath's love of the opera, symphony, and theater led him to a career as a dresser with the local theatre workers union. He was one of the first benefactors of 42nd Street Moon, a theater group dedicated to restoring and performing "lost musicals." Mr. Plath took great pride in promoting its work to his many friends, and on the day he died he was arranging for a group to attend the upcoming fundraising performance of *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*.

Mr. Plath will be missed by many in the community, his neighborhood, and at the Alexander Post 448 of the American Legion, of which he was a longtime member. His passing is deeply mourned by his sister, Jeanne Martin, of San Mateo; his niece, Lauryl Martin-Davis, of San Mateo; and his son, Mike Finn and Finn's partner Russell Zellers, of San Francisco. A memorial service will be held at 814 Grove Street, on Sunday, August 4, from noon to 4 p.m.

"Bill was among the many friends I knew and respected for over 40 years," Ross said. "The Plath household consisted of Bill Brunski, Mr. Plath's first lover and lifelong friend, and his lately departed second lover, Dick Rousseau. The three of them were generous to a fault, always helping gay men and women in need. I don't know how many people got lodging or meals at their home on Grove Street."

"Bill Brunski passed away about five years ago and Dick Rousseau died about a year ago. Bill never got over the passing of Dick. Boon companions for over 45 years, he and his good works will sorely be missed," Ross added.

In lieu of flowers or a charitable donation, Mr. Plath's family requests that you take yourself out to enjoy some theater — perhaps a performance at 42nd Street Moon. ▼

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Hoops, I did it again

by Jim Provenzano

Gay basketball in the Bay Area has a long and impressive history. The original program was started in 1977 by Glen Mercier, who played forward for Boston College. That team played against "straight" teams, like the police and fire departments, in events at Kezar Pavilion. They never lost a game until they were beaten in the championship game by San Diego at Gay Games II.

Among their luminaries were Glenn Burke, the former Oakland A's baseball player, who before dying of AIDS, became the only openly gay African American baseball player.

Today's teams and recreational players continue the tradition of friendly sports competition.

There will be 20 teams in Sydney's Gay Games men's basketball competition. San Francisco will sponsor or have players on five of those teams.

Longtime gay basketball organizer Tony Jasinski noted the various groupings of athletes dribbling for the U.S.

"One player will be playing with the New York team, which he has done for a few years," Jasinski said. "Alex Herrera is heading our gold medal candidate team called the SF Rockdogs, with the best young athletes we have to offer. This team is not as dominant as in prior years, though they've taken third and second place in recent U.S. tournaments."

"Daryle Morgan is leading the Above the Rim squad, which is also a legitimate gold medal candidate team made up of players from around California, including three or four players from San Francisco."

"Jim Oakley is heading a team of mostly ex-collegiate players, but not quite as strong as the two prior mentioned teams."

Oakley also serves on the board of Team San Francisco and was captain of the San Francisco Eagles, which placed fifth overall in Amsterdam.

Jasinski will be heading up a "recreational" level team. "My team will be fun, as I only have three players from San Francisco. We've got a 21-year-old from Hungary on our squad, along with players from Indianapolis, Seattle, Atlanta, Phoenix, and Sacramento."

Jasinski is also up-to-date on the estimates of who will be the toughest teams in Sydney.

"Our understanding is that the European teams will be significantly improved and may be capable of taking their first gold medal in the competition," he said. "England, for example, is said to have a dominant 6 foot 10 inch center, and Amsterdam is rumored to have 'twin towers.' They will definitely be more competitive than ever."

"For the Americans, the only other team expected to be a gold medal team is the Los Angeles Heat, which has two players from Amsterdam's Games SF gold medal team, who moved to Los Angeles."

Team practices continue each Sunday at Eureka Valley Rec Center from 5-9 p.m.

New leagues start in September. For more info, visit www.gay-basketball.com or e-mail Tony-Jazz2@cs.com.

Mullet it be

And what about women's basketball? Well, they need players. And the team name is ... The San Francisco Mulletts.

"We're four athletic women playing at the C level," said organizer Julie Lane. "We need a few more women to round out our roster for Sydney. We especially need a center, but any fun-loving women who have seen a basketball before are welcome to join us. We're laid back and want to have fun first and foremost."

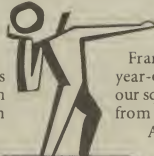
Contact jjulie_1969@hotmail.com for more details. Hair-cut not required.

Kicky

Are you a women's soccer player, and interested in going to the Sydney Gay Games?

"We have a team registered for the Gay Games in the Women's Masters Division, but due to injuries and other issues several players have dropped out," said Chris Berman of the team. "We are scrambling to fill our roster before the deadline."

You may reply to Chris Berman at



Sports Complex



Bay Area basketball players at a recent tournament in Chicago.

mauchris@hotmail.com or Cathleen Moore at ccmoore711@yahoo.com.

Kick back

A free self-defense seminar will be held by Triangle Taekwon Do on Friday, August 2 at 7:30 p.m. at the Eureka Valley Recreational Center at 18th and Collingwood (one block west of Castro Street).

The seminar will be conducted by fourth-degree black belt Master Ken Craig, and will focus on self-defense concepts, recognition of potential danger, conflict assessment and de-escalation techniques, and legal responsibilities of the defender. Techniques will include basic moves to evade and defend oneself, as well as elements of hapkido, which uses pressure points and leverage to disable the attacker.

Despite the Bay Area's reputation for being "gay friendly," attacks on LGBT persons still occur. Triangle Taekwon Do was formed in November 1998 in response to the murder of Matthew Shepard, in the effort to empower and protect the local gay community.

For more information, call (415) 495-1888 or visit www.triangletkd.org.

Kicked out

Muirfield, Scotland's golf links club, came under scrutiny as the host site of the British Open Golf Tournament last week.

In the land where men wear kilts ("That's a kilt, laddie!") the snooty private club excludes women. With the invading armies of media exposing this discriminatory relic, the club deigned to allow the "fair sex" in for the week. How nice.

Golfers, including Tiger Woods, were asked what they thought about the discriminatory practice.

"It would be nice to see everyone have an equal chance to participate if they wanted to, but there's nothing you can do about it."

No, Tiger, nothing one can do about discrimination. Civil rights? What's that? Where's my limo?

Ernie Els captured the British Open title. He's from South Africa, a country that, unlike Scotland, pretty much abolished apartheid.

Tiger Woods finished 28th. He won \$37,925.

Nothing you can do about it. Groucho Marx, an avid golfer, who putted with Alice Cooper in his later years, told a story of his early attempts to find a nice golf course. In the late 1950s, when inquiring at the Beverly Hills Country Club, the Jewish comedy star was rejected.

"I'm sorry, sir, but this is a restricted club," a smug manager told him.

"Not even the pool?" He was again rebuffed.

Unfazed, Marx asked, "Well, my daughter likes to swim, and she's only half Jewish. Can she go in up to her waist?"

Blue light specials

The San Francisco Track & Field Club will be hosting fundraisers throughout the coming months to help their team members get to Sydney.

Lone Star Saloon, located South of Market on Harrison at 10th Street, will host beer benefits, from 8-11 p.m., on Thursday, August 8, Thursday, September 26, and Thursday, October 17.

Garage sales are scheduled at 18th Street in the Castro (across the street from Jaguar Bookstore) from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 10 and Saturday, September 14.

Additionally, if you would like to donate used items for sale (like your stock in WorldCom?), please contact coach Frank Demby at FSMD@aol.com.

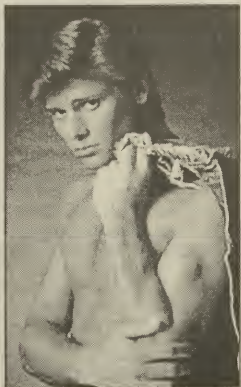


Gay and acting: Billy Bean

Show time

Gay former San Diego Padres outfielder Billy Bean made a guest appearance on the HBO sports show *Arllis*, giving actor Grant Show, who played a gay baseball player, a stern lesson about the perils of coming out. The show,

next page ►



Acting gay: Grant Show



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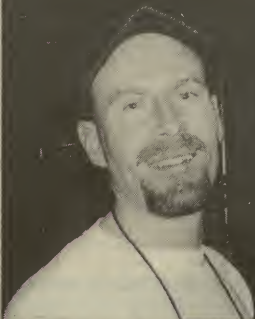
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Religious right attacks youth mentoring program

by Zak Szymanski

In a move that attacked both Catholics and gays simultaneously, America's religious right last week launched a nationwide attack on the Big Brothers Big Sisters of America program for reiterating its non-discrimination policy to all of its chapters, a policy which protects volunteers from all discrimination, including that based upon sexuality.

Citing BBBSA's "new" requirement that all chapters allow "active homosexuals" to serve as mentors, Focus on the Family issued a statement on Monday, July 15, calling for an anti-gay cam-

paign against the organization.

"In light of the ongoing sex scandal involving Catholic priests, the new policy of inclusion by Big Brothers Big Sisters appears reckless and irresponsible," said the statement, written by right-wing psychologist Bill Maier. "Can a girl without a mom learn what it means to be a wife and mother from a lesbian? Can a gay man teach a boy without a dad the skills he needs to be an effective husband and father?"

In fact, the BBBSA policy is not new, according to its spokespeople, just newly enforced, in light of some recent allegations of anti-gay discrimination. And while Focus on the Family claimed that

BBBSA had received "thousands" of protest calls, the Big Brothers Big Sisters headquarters in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania reported about 150 such calls. The organization also emphasized that its mission was not to make sure kids got married, but to help them with their school work and peer and family relationships.

Focus on the Family is best known as the organization that employed "ex-gay" poster boy John Paulk as its homosexuality and gender analyst. Paulk, who toured the country denouncing homosexuality and teaching parents how to rid their children of such tendencies, was caught in a gay bar in Washington, D.C. in 2000. ▼

Sports Complex

◀ previous page

which aired this past Sunday, has received mixed reactions from fans and media, and replays on Saturday on HBO.

Grant Show, playing a gay role. What a challenge!

Ye gods

George Michael is making headlines again, and again.

His cartoon music video parody of current political farces seems to have gotten lots of folks' feathers ruffled.

"Shoot The Dog," portrays George W. Bush as an imbecile and depicts British Prime Minister Tony Blair as his lap dog. This is a cartoon, but how is it a parody?

The single will not be released

in the U.S. but can be viewed online at www.mtv.co.uk.

Michael, meanwhile feels threatened by the negative response.

"Americans are very reactionary right now, and I cannot return to America, even though my partner lives there," he complained.

Oh well, he might be hanging out on Mykonos for the summer, hopefully to get some inspiration for the theme song to the 2004 Olympic Games, to be held in Athens, Greece.

Michael, whose real name is Georgios Kyriacos Panayiotou, is of Greek descent, and was asked to pen a tune in honor of the athletic event. He's thinking about it.

Greek jokes aside, it's interesting that Michael was chosen, considering that Greece isn't as gay-

friendly as one would think, despite their having pretty much perfected the male bonding thing a millennium or so ago.

Of course, Michael wouldn't even be a so-called gay leader if he hadn't been entrapped in the Ginger Rogers - excuse me - Will Rogers Park toidie, attempting to wank off a cute gay cop who later tried to sue him for police parodies in yet another whimsical video.

Hopefully by 2004, the Olympics will inch a tiny measure closer to the idealistic vision of openness and inclusivity, with bribe-free, corruption-free, and homophobia-free athletics.

Hopefully by then, we'll have a debt-free economy, a non-corrupt government, and a world free of terrorism.

Yeah, and Zeus himself will descend from the heavens to attend the Opening Ceremonies. ▼

Until then, honor the god Teatros. Buy tickets to **PINS**, the play, at www.nctcsf.org. Previews start August 14. Or visit www.sportscomplex.org.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE 258775

The following person(s) are doing business as: Cecile & Jeanne, 2086 Chestnut Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Perry M. Bryer, president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/26/2002.

JULY 3, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258720

The following person(s) are doing business as: Jack Austin & Associates, 2800 Filbert Street, #6, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jack A. Austin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on June 24, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/24/2002.

JULY 3, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258980

The following person(s) are doing business as: San Francisco Health Support, 2579 32nd Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94116-2953. This business is conducted by an individual signed Matthew Stuart Kramer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 3, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/03/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258924

The following person(s) are doing business as: Master Automotive, 262 7th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yi Zhawang Zhou. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 3, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/02/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

LEGAL NOTICES

City and County of San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Free or low-cost health care, (800) 300-9950. If you or someone you know needs immunizations, check-ups, dental care, birth control, pregnancy testing, or prenatal care, call us. We are here to help women, teens, and children find free or low-cost health care. The San Francisco Department of Public Health provides referrals to clinics, doctors, and dentists in San Francisco. Our English, Spanish, Cantonese, and Mandarin speaking staff are here to take your call, Monday through Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

WIC Program

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), Supplemental Nutrition Program provides nutrition education, food vouchers, and breastfeeding support for pregnant women, postpartum women, infants, and children younger than five. Vouchers are picked up at a WIC site on a monthly/bimonthly basis and may be exchanged for milk, cheese, eggs, cereal, juice, peanut butter/beans, and infant formulas in most grocery stores. All WIC services are free of charge. For more information, please call (415) 554-9667.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

Commercial Toxics Reduction Coordinator. Responsible for the coordination and implementation of San Francisco's Green Business Program. Salary: \$53,508-\$65,052 annual. Filing Deadline: 08/16/02. For complete job announcement and job application, go to: sfenvironment.org.

Recycling Program Manager. Responsible for overseeing the Recycling Program, implementing new programs and developing and managing budgets for recycling program areas. Salary: \$71,032 - \$86,320 Annual. Filing deadline: 08/16/02. For a complete job description and job application, go to www.sfenvironment.org.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY—Controller's Office Under general direction, the 1801 Supervising Performance Auditor is the first supervisory level responsible for planning, organizing, managing, and supervising all activities of an audit project team engaged in a variety of performance audits, program evaluations and special projects to study, analyze and review policies, management and operations of governmental agencies, vendors, contractors, and other parties that do business with San Francisco. The current salary range is \$69,316 - \$84,266 annually.

Minimum qualifications: Possession of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university AND three (3) years of verifiable performance, management or operational auditing or management consulting experience including at least one (1) year as a lead worker, supervising professional staff and/or managing projects. Qualifying work experience must reflect the ability to evaluate the efficiency, effectiveness, economic and legal issues of programs or activities.

Applications and supplemental applications will be available from July 19 to August 9, 2002 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM at the Department of Human Resources, 44 Gough St, San Francisco, CA 94103. You may also obtain applications by visiting the City website (www.sfgov.org) or the Controller's Office, City Hall, Rm. 477, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl., S.F., CA 94102, or by contacting the Controller's Office at 554-7552 or at louis_a_vocica@sfgov.org. Submit completed applications and supplemental applications to the Department of Human Resources at 44 Gough Street or mail to: Personnel, Job #1801, Controller's Office, City Hall, Room 477, 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, S.F., CA 94102. The final filing date is August 9, 2002.

The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

STATEMENT FILE 258845

The following person(s) are doing business as: At Home Fertility Services 1530 Dolores Street #6 San Francisco, CA 94110. This business is conducted by an general partnership signed Jennifer Bauman. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 6/24/2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 6/28/2002.

JULY 3, 11, 18, 25, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258965

The following person(s) are doing business as: Scholl Solutions, 160 8th Street, Ste. #8, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Mike D. Scholl. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/02/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258936

The following person(s) are doing business as: Sigillo Properties, 1623 Yosemite Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by tenants-in-common signed Joseph Sigillo, Dominic Sigillo and Phillip Sigillo. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/02/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02-540290

In the Matter of the Application of Patricia deBeruff Waite. For change of Name. The application of Patricia deBeruff Waite for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Patricia deBeruff Waite has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Joseph DeBeruff Waite. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 30th day of July at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JULY 3, 11, 18, 25, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02-540361

In the Matter of the Application of Catherine Kohua Sun for Catrina Chi-Yuan Sun For change of Name. The application of Catrina Chi-Yuan Sun for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Catrina Chi-Yuan Sun has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Catrina Chi-Yuan Sun-Tan. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 12th day of September, 2002 at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JULY 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02-540327

In the Matter of the Application of Rachel Amie Benjamin. For change of Name. The application of Rachel Amie Benjamin for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Rachel Amie Benjamin has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Amie Pascal. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 20th day of August at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259088

The following person(s) are doing business as: Lopez Printing, 1463 Thomas Avenue #1, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Hildan Lopez. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 08, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/09/2002.

JULY 11, 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259238

The following person(s) are doing business as: CrewVision 1804 Laguna Street San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Michael Erives. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/15/02.

JULY 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258908

The following person(s) are doing business as: Nob Hill Tavern 1390 California Street San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Stephanie Ann Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/01/02.

JULY 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259201

The following person(s) are doing business as: Ibarra's Carpet Cleaning, 350 Turk Street Apt. #1611, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by co-partners signed Raul Ibarra and Juan Ibarra. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 12, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/12/2002.

JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 258700

The following person(s) are doing business as: Danya Enterprises 468 Tehama Street, Apt. 7 San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Daniel Robinson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 06/21/02.

JULY 18, 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 2002

Castro burglar

◀ page 3

Limbert noted that Flanagan has an extensive arrest record, including arrests for violent crimes, but most of the charges were dismissed by the San Francisco District Attorney's office or shuffled off to other jurisdictions with Flanagan being allowed to go free each time.

Hirst said Flanagan is due in court on Friday, July 26. He was being held on two counts of burglary, a probation violation, and a hold from the California Department of Corrections. Now he'll also be charged with the escape, a felony.

Although relieved at his capture, the escape left Warner and others who worked so hard to nab Flanagan shaking their heads.

"It's unbelievable that he got out," said Warner. ▼

Cheering on walkers



Jane Philomeni Orlan

Actor Bill Brochtrup, of *NYPD Blue*, revved up an energetic crowd of more than 25,000 people who participated in the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's 16th annual AIDS Walk, held Sunday, July 21 in Golden Gate Park. More than \$3.5 million was raised during the 10K walk. The funds will be split among SFAF and 35 other AIDS organizations.

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

City and County of San Francisco
Department of Human Services
Request for Proposals #217

Dear Potential Applicant:
The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services (SFDHS) announces its intent to seek proposals for the provision of respite services for county-licensed and optional for recovery foster parents and relative caregivers. The contractor will be expected to recruit, train, and manage a group of respite providers to be available to provide respite services. The contractor will also be expected to provide outreach to foster parents and relative caregivers, as well as coordinate the provision of respite hours to the foster parents and relative caregivers, track respite services, and provide monthly reports.

The contract period will run from 10/1/02 to 6/30/03 for an amount to be determined.

An RFP packet may be picked up at SFDHS, Office of Contract Management, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 300, Friday, July 26, 2002. Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM.

The RFP packet and subsequent updates may be downloaded from the City's website on or after July 26, 2002.

Go to [HTTP://SUNSET.CLSFCA.US/IBIDS.NSF](http://SUNSET.CLSFCA.US/IBIDS.NSF) and click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" link.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Monday, August 5, 2002 at 3:30 PM at 1650 Mission St., Suite 300, SF, CA. For further information, call Kimberly Ferguson, at (415) 557-5585. Due date for responses is Wednesday, August 28, 2002 at 5:00 PM.

07/25/02
CNS-4220594
BAY AREA REPORTER

City and County of San Francisco
Department of Human Services
Request for Proposals #222

Dear Potential Applicant:
The San Francisco Department of Human Services announces its intent to seek proposals from agencies and organizations interested in contracting to implement a family resource center in the Bayview Hunters Point Community.

The contract period will run from 11/1/2002 to 6/30/04 for an amount to be determined.

An RFP packet may be picked up at SFDHS, Office of Contract Management, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 300, on or after Thursday, August 1, 2002. Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM. RFP packets will also be available on the internet at [HTTP://SUNSET.CLSFCA.US/IBIDS.NSF](http://SUNSET.CLSFCA.US/IBIDS.NSF).

Click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" link.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Wednesday, August 7, 2002, at 10:30 AM at 1650 Mission, Third Floor, Suite 300, SF, CA. For further information, call Kimberly Ferguson at (415) 557-5585. Due date for responses is Thursday, September 5th, 2002 at 5:00 PM.

07/25/02
CNS-4219514
BAY AREA REPORTER

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. CNC-02-540346

In the Matter of the Application of Frank Derek Duran, For Change of Name. The application of Frank Derek Duran for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Frank Derek Duran has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Francisco Derek Duran. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 5th day of September at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.

JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259340
The following person(s) are doing business as: Lucky Deli. One Bush Street Basement Level, San Francisco, Ca. 94104. This business is conducted by an individual signed Tony Chow. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/17/2002.

JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259383
The following person(s) are doing business as: Elevation Records. 760 Bacon #3, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jason Walker. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 18, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/18/2002.

JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
To Whom It May Concern: The Name of the Applicant(s) is: Cavalino Enterprises LLC. The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverages Control at: 185 Berry Street, suite #5600 San Francisco, Ca. 94107, to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3166 24th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. Type of license Applied for: 41-ON SALE BEER AND WINE EATING PLACE

JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 2002

STATEMENT FILE 259372
The following person(s) are doing business as: Alabaster. 597 Hayes Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Nelson Bloncourt. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on August 15, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/18/2002.

JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

City and County of San Francisco
Department of Human Services
Request for Proposals #218

Dear Potential Applicant:
The City and County of San Francisco Department of Human Services (SFDHS) announces its intent to seek proposals from agencies and organizations interested in contracting to provide services and resources to support foster parents and relative caregivers. The contracted services will include the operation of a foster parent resource room and its programs, including a mentor program for foster parents. This contract services San Francisco county-licensed foster parents and relative foster parents of court-dependent children from San Francisco. The contract period will run from 10/1/02 to 6/30/03 for an amount to be determined.

An RFP packet may be picked up at SFDHS, Office of Contract Management, 1650 Mission Street, Suite 300, Friday, July 26, 2002. Office hours are from 8:30 AM to 5 PM.

The RFP packet and subsequent updates may be downloaded from the City's website on or after July 26, 2002.

Go to [HTTP://SUNSET.CLSFCA.US/IBIDS.NSF](http://SUNSET.CLSFCA.US/IBIDS.NSF) and click on the "Consultants and Professional Services" link.

The Respondents' Conference will be held on Monday, August 5, 2002 at 2:00 PM at 1650 Mission St., Suite 300, SF, CA. For further information, call Kimberly Ferguson, at (415) 557-5585. Due date for responses is Friday, August 23, 2002 at 5:00 PM.

07/25/02
CNS-4220814
BAY AREA REPORTER

STATEMENT FILE 259205
The following person(s) are doing business as: Kravet Fabrics, Lee Jofa, Kravet Furniture, Private Label Textiles, Galleria Design Center, 101 Henry Adams Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Lisa Kravet, Vice President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 07/12/2002.

JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 217568
The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Alabaster. Located at: 597 Hayes Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: September 23, 1997. This business was conducted by: Limited Liability Company.

JULY 25, AUGUST 1, 8, 15, 2002

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JOBS OFFERED

Position announcement Program Manager

The Living Center is a new contract from the County of Santa Clara and is envisioned as a peer-driven drop-in HIV/AIDS program and facility. The contractor, Positive Resources of Santa Clara County, seeks a full-time Program Manager who will establish and manage the Living Center facility and programs, and has the ability to particularly focus on the needs of ethnic populations and the needs of women.

Job Summary. The Program Manager will establish and manage a facility that is a safe and supportive environment for persons living with HIV/AIDS, and provides direct services such as support groups and peer counseling as well as programs designed to increase accessibility to existing HIV services in Santa Clara County. The Program Manager must be able to focus on the needs of ethnic populations and the needs of women, both of who have special concerns relating to accessibility and other barriers to services. In recognition of the fact that the majority of HIV infected people in Santa Clara County are gay men, the Program Manager will work closely with the local Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community to make sure their specific needs and concerns are met. Substantive experience with HIV/AIDS issues is necessary. The Program Manager will report to the President of the Board of Directors.

Job Responsibilities. The Program Manager will be responsible for:

- Identifying and developing programming to meet the needs of underserved populations within the HIV/AIDS community of Santa Clara County.
- Collaborating with other agencies to establish and maintain memorandums of understanding (MOUs)
- Hiring, training, and supervision of a half-time Volunteer Coordinator
- Creating an office dedicated to out-stationed agencies with related infrastructure
- Complying with 100% of the Santa Clara County contract reporting requirements.
- Planning and encouraging involvement of clients in community forums, meetings, and surveys.
- Budget monitoring, strategic planning, developing and managing interagency relationships and similar administrative functions.

Qualifications. The successful candidate will bring the following:

- Three to five years of relevant HIV/AIDS experience, and college degree or equivalent managerial experience;
- Demonstrated commitment and leadership skills in health services
- Demonstrated ability to think strategically and creatively
- Proven ability to convene, organize, and sustain partnerships with other agencies
- Proven ability to move a project from conception to realization
- Excellent writing, and communication skills
- Ability and desire to work in a small, collegial, fluid organization.

How To Apply. Submit a letter of interest addressing the qualifications, three references, and resume to:

Charles L. Evans
Positive Resources of SCC
55 Glistening Court
Milpitas, CA, 95035-4345
charles@evansgroup.net (e-mail)

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled. No phone calls, please. Positive Resources strongly encourages women, HIV+ persons, persons of color, those that are bilingual, and persons with disabilities to apply.

Revised May 22, 2002

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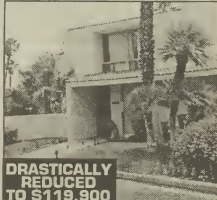
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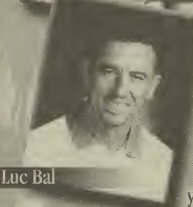
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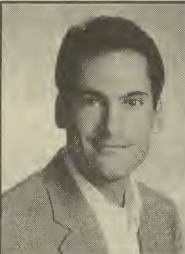
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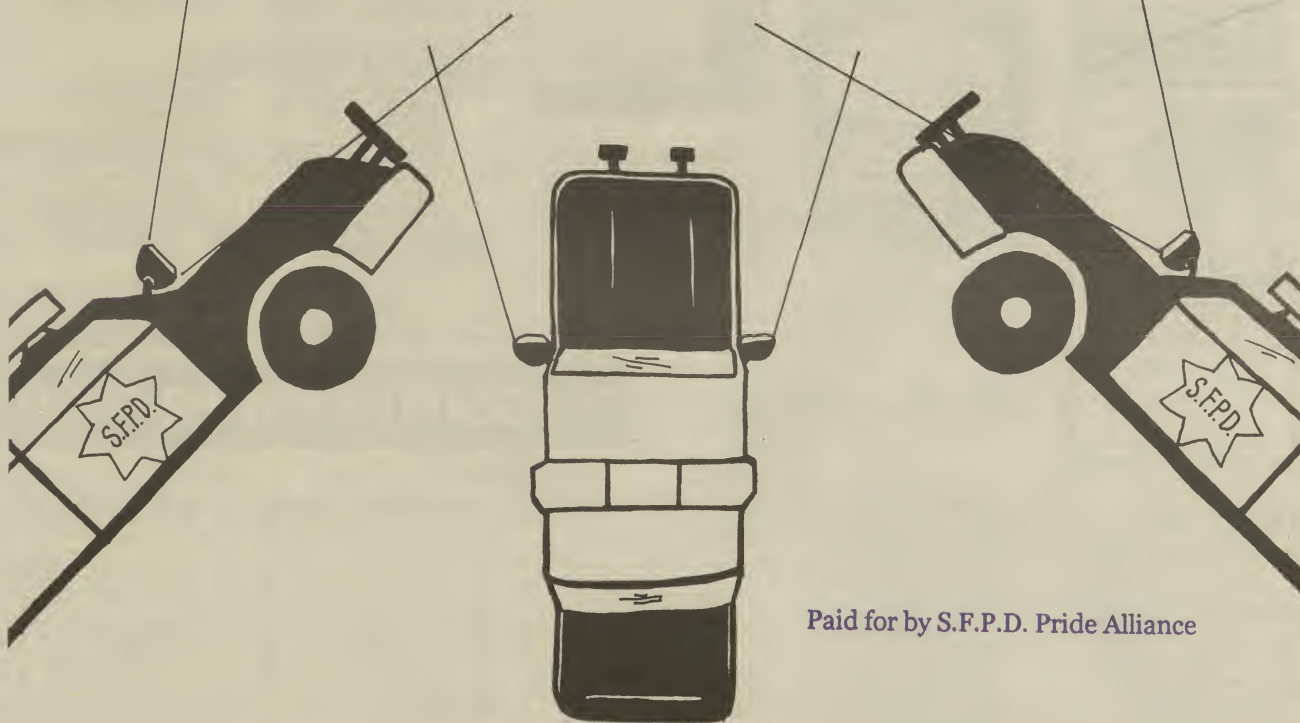
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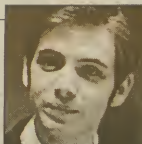
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Whatever happened to Rod McKuen?
Gay poet, songwriter takes part in 'Help
Is on the Way VIII' AIDS benefit concert.

page 28

Robbing the cradle
Precocious schoolboy is
love object in 'Tadpole.'

page 35



French pop treat
'Read My Lips' is the
'Diva' for our own times.

page 31



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 32 • No. 30 • 25 July 2002



Csaba Buday
performing
'A Faun's
Afternoon'
in Nijinsky

Nijinsky, the god, meets Paul Cox, the altar boy

filming the fuller version of the dancer's diaries

by Brandon Judell

Vaslav Nijinsky is considered by many to be the greatest male dancer of the 20th century. Starting in 1909, he set the world afire as the star of Diaghilev's Ballet Russe, making classics of such Fokine dances as *Petrouchka*, *Les Sylphides*, *The Spectre of the Rose*, plus *The Afternoon of a Faun*, which he himself choreographed. In the photographs that survive, you can tell why. But stardom combined with an artistic temperament can spell disaster, as we all know. Nijinsky, who was Diaghilev's lover, decomposed quite swiftly. He got married, was ousted from the Ballet Russe, and went mad. Luckily for us, while institutionalized, he kept an illustrated diary, proving what John Dryden once noted: "Great wits are sure to madness near allied." Nijinsky's scribbles supply numerous insights into love, art, and a world forever at war. His conjectures are never less than acutely perceptive, never less than poetry.

Poetry did save the early versions of this diary, first published in 1936, from being shorn of all gay references by his wife, Romola. Her fascinating yet self-censored biography of her spouse also excised his gay past. Only in later editions of the diaries, published after Romola's

page 30 ►

She's still here

Ann Miller spends an evening at the Castro

by Tavo Amador

The voice on the other end of the line is energetic, youthful, and friendly. Ann Miller apologizes for the late start of our telephone interview, explaining that one with another reporter ran longer than expected. No matter — classic Hollywood's fastest tap dancer is ready to talk about her career. She will be in town for a July 26 showing of *Kiss Me, Kate* at the Castro Theatre, part of a benefit for Survive AIDS.

My comment about her welcome appearance last year in David Lynch's *Mulholland Drive* drew laughter. Was working on that film different from the movies she made at MGM in the '40s and '50s? "No. David Lynch is a powerhouse, a real gentleman." She compared him to Frank Capra, and was impressed with the way he corrected an actor's performance, doing it "quietly, privately, away from everyone else."

She was a teenager when she made *Stage Door* (1937). Was she nervous working with Ginger Rogers and Katharine Hepburn? "You'd better believe I was nervous, especially around Ginger Rogers,

my idol." That cast included Lucille Ball, who had been instrumental in getting Miller a screen test and a contract with RKO a few years earlier. That almost didn't happen, because Miller was 13 when Ball caught her act at San Francisco's Club Bal Tabarin. To get that job, Miller, backed by her mother, had to say she was 18, "because they were serving alcohol on the premises. But Lucille and RKO's Benny Rubin didn't believe me or Mother." The studio didn't want to sign a minor, so she persuaded her attorney father to send a "forged birth certificate."

She would repay Ball's help by introducing her to Desi Arnaz on the set of *Too Many Girls* in 1940. "Lucy's mouth was hanging wide open. So I and a few others would go out to dinner and dancing with Lucy and Desi once a week. That's how they got to know one another. I'm very proud of that."

After *Stage Door*, she filmed Capra's *You Can't Take It With You*, starring James

page 33 ►

Show business great
Ann Miller appears
live at the Castro
Theatre on Friday
night after a
screening of
Kiss Me, Kate.



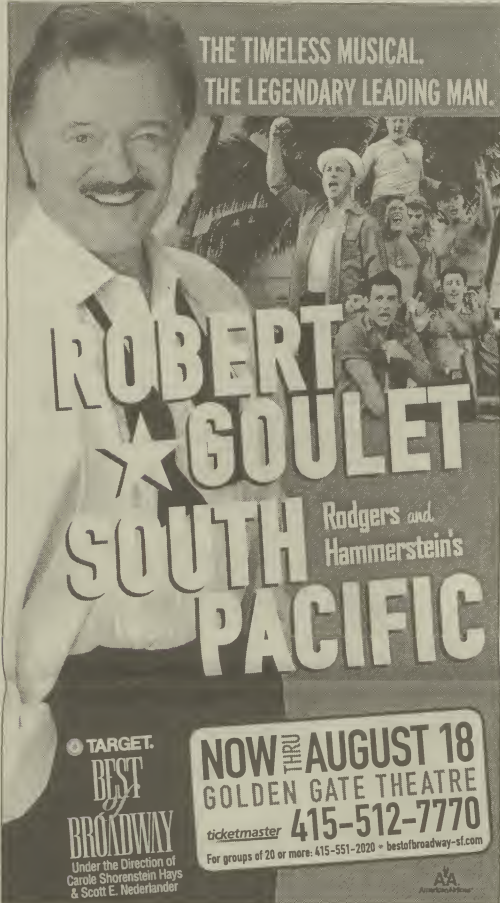
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by Roberto Friedman
and Stanley Stalls

Yes, rumors are true that out pop star/toilet snipe **George Michael** has been invited by the Athens Olympic Committee to write the theme song for the 2004 Olympic Games, to be held in the Greek city of their birth. Out There is ready with lyrics advice should Michael need it ("Greek active seeking Greek passive"/"Pass a torch that's really massive!") The one-time Georgios Kyriacos Panayiotou has Greek heritage, but we suspect his pals in the South London cottaging scene have already seen ample proof of that.

Which reminds us, did anyone else see that weird item in someone else's gossip column about those See's Candies big-shots purchasing **Jackie Onassis'** yacht, complete with whale-foreskin seat covers? Inquiring minds want to know: who had the job of harvesting the goods? Must be some badass Navy Seal, with both scuba-diving and circumcision skills!

Growth potential

From "Anti-Spam Legislation Opposed by Powerful Penis-Enlargement Lobby" in the *Onion*: "Efforts to pass legislation restricting Internet 'spam' — unsolicited mass e-mails usually for advertising purposes — are meeting with strong resistance from the nation's powerful penis-enlargement lobby.

"If this legislation passes, the government would, for all intents and purposes, be taking three to four inches off America's cocks," said **Denny Garner**, president of the National Association of Penis Enlargers (NAPE), speaking to reporters Monday. "For millions of poorly hung American men, spam is a vital source of information about penis-enlargement options, and our elected officials have no right to take it away from them.

"The entire penis-enlargement industry is threatened by this bill," Garner said. "Despite what most people think, not all penis-pill and penis-pump makers are big and wealthy. There are many self-starting entrepreneurs who play a vital



Arthur Tress, *Hermaphrodite Between Statues*, East Hampton, NY (1973), at Photo San Francisco at Fort Mason Center this weekend.

role in keeping the industry competitive. This bill would drive them out of the marketplace, leaving only the large multinationals like the **Dong Group**."

He loves lezzies

W magazine reports on flop-haired actor **Hugh Grant's** newest hobby, art-collecting. "The edgy photography of **Ellen von Unwerth** and the campy work of **David LaChapelle** are on the walls of his London flat. 'I love

all that lezzy stuff,' he says, referring to von Unwerth's leopard-clad vamps, romping on shag carpeting. 'I love that it's lezzy! Now, you wouldn't catch me posing topless like **Tom Cruise** on a magazine cover. There's something not quite manly about that.'"

Then Grant returns to the topic of the lezzy photos, which he says "are meant to be appreciated ironically. I hope I'm doing it in quotation marks. Otherwise, you look like an old perv." Whatever you say, "tiger."

One-sentence reviews

Hollywood thriller *The Bourne Identity*: **Matt Damon**, beefed up and lobotomized.

Preentious art film *The Road to Perdition*: **Tom Hanks** twitches his awful moustache.

Star **Rita Moreno** at the Plush Room: If only her Oscar, her Tony and her Emmy could sing.

North Beach poet **Lawrence Ferlinghetti's** one-man show of

paintings at **George Krevsky** Gallery: A Coney Island of the ego.

Photo metro

Chicago's Institute of Design, founded as an outpost of the Bauhaus modern design school in the '30s, was one of the most important schools of photography in 20th-century America. *Taken By Design: Photographs from the Institute of Design, 1937-1971*, an exhibit dedicated to the ID, is on view through Oct. 20 at SFMO-MA.

Stand-outs in the show, which includes seminal work by ID students and faculty, are photographs (images made on film without a camera) by founder **László Moholy-Nagy**, airborne men from teacher **Aaron Siskind's** series *Pleasures and Terrors of Levitation*, and student **Richard Nickel's** detailed documentation of the work of great gay architect **Louis Sullivan**. The photograph reproduced here, by ID student **Jonas Dovydenas**, *Ironworker, Chicago* (1969), can be found in the excellent accompanying catalog (Art Institute of Chicago with the University of Chicago Press).

Dealers and collectors from all points gather tonight, Thurs., July 25, for the gala opening of Photo San Francisco 2002, through Sunday at the Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason Center. Exhibited for sale, thousands of photos dating from the 19th century on, including works by such luminaries of the camera as **Diane Arbus**, **Henri Cartier-Bresson**, **Robert Mapplethorpe**, **Man Ray**, **Sebastian Salgado**, **Weegee**, and many

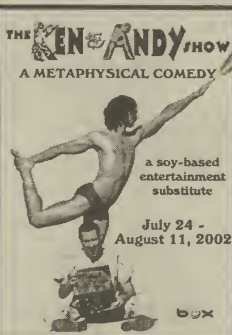
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Jonas Dovydenas, *Ironworker, Chicago* (1969), from the Institute of Design

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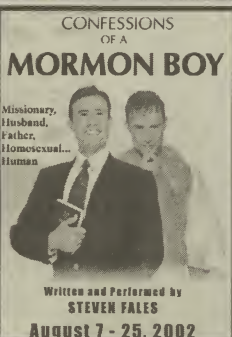
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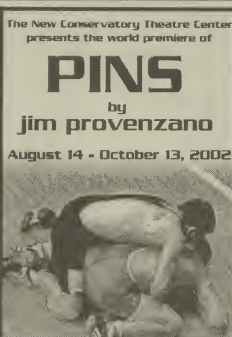
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Hard 'Candide'

Davies Hall concerts disappoint

by Philip Campbell

Expectations and publicity ran high for recent semi-staged performances of Leonard Bernstein's *Candide* in the *Summer in the City* series at Davies Hall. I share, with a legion of admirers, an intense affection for the 46-year-old Broadway flop that refuses to die.

Getting past the inflated (also inaccurate) advertising hype and the overly appreciative acceptance of the opening night crowd wasn't easy. I really wanted to love this latest incarnation, but the costumed concert version only underlined flaws that many talented people have tried to correct.

This show has gone through more changes than Offenbach's *Tales of Hoffmann*, and the Scottish Opera Edition of the Opera House Version was used this time. That's a mouthful, but it is the adaptation that supposedly reflects Bernstein's final thoughts on the subject.

Lillian Hellman's dour libretto was withdrawn years ago, and Hugh Wheeler stepped in to emulate Voltaire's voice. His treatment is still in use, though it has been interpreted freely over the years. Most notably, Harold Prince made a hit of his carnival-style staging both off and on Broadway.

Unfortunately, most of the work given the soloists and ensemble might have been better cut. The evening was long and, while conductor Patrick Summers kept to fairly brisk tempos, the wealth of restored music slowed things down.

The lyrics are principally by Richard Wilbur. Additional contributions were made by the likes of John La Touche, Dorothy Parker, Hellman, Bernstein and Stephen Sondheim. That many chefs, no matter how brilliant, can make a very messy kitchen.

One constant throughout the checkered history has been the gloriously witty music. A cascade of waltzes, polkas, gavottes and mazurkas glitter as brightly as the indecently earned jewels of the heroine Cunegonde. There is even what Bernstein called a Jewish tango for the hilariously misused Old Lady. If *Candide* continues to have book problems, there is nothing wrong with the score.

Bernstein called the show a comic operetta, and it is closer to European opera than Tin Pan Alley. *Candide* is a Broadway musical like *Lolita* is a teen romance flick. It is up to the director to make a cohesive whole of the colliding styles. Stage director Stafford Arima did not share the lucky resources of the wildly successful concert version of *Sweeney Todd* last summer.

Fully formed

Only Jason Danieley as the titular hero has a history with *Candide*. He received a Theater World Award and a Drama Desk nomination for his performances in the 1997 Broadway production.

The rest of the cast did not have the luxury of many re-



George Hearn: pedestrian

hearsals, but they were all, with one surprising exception, ready to give fully-formed performances. Only George Hearn, so triumphant in *Sweeney Todd*, gave a pedestrian interpretation of the multiple roles assigned him.

Hearn would undoubtedly have mined the comic riches of his part better if he had more time to relax into the wordiness of the script. The poor guy had enough on his plate just remembering where to be onstage. Expecting

In multiple roles, Stanford Olsen augmented the previous success of his *Sweeney Todd* appearances. He is also very funny, with a terrific voice, riding over the orchestra and chorus without a trace of strain.

Marin Mazzei probably accepted the relatively minor role of Paquette to spend some time with her husband Jason Danieley. She has Broadway star written all over her. The director saddled her with some anachronistic stage business, but she is a dish with a big voice and comic flair.

The other soloists were uniformly excellent, with Chad Runyon a standout. The ensemble players were less notable, but thoroughly adequate.

Unfortunately, most of the work given the soloists and ensemble might have been better cut. The evening was long and, while conductor Patrick Summers kept to fairly brisk tempos, the wealth of restored music slowed things down. ▼

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Hot Rod

McKuen is back

by Richard Dodds

Rod McKuen knows how to celebrate a birthday. For his 70th, coming next April, he's planning a return to Carnegie Hall.

"I played Carnegie Hall eight or nine times," he said. "I hold the record, I think."

But all those concerts took place years ago, before McKuen went on an extended career sabbatical that began with a bad case of clinical depression.

"Sometimes I didn't leave the yard for six or seven months at a time," he said from his home in Beverly Hills. "I had people who insisted I have some sort of social life, but it wasn't much."

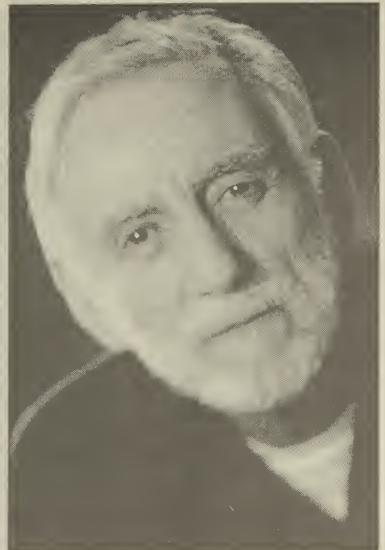
With a boost from Prozac, he was able to get himself emotionally back on track. But his career, which flowered in the '60s and '70s with books of heartfelt poetry and recordings of songs featur-

ing his raspy voice, consisted of little more than occasional voiceover work on films and television.

That, too, has changed. "I'm working harder than I ever have," McKuen said, "and I love it. I don't have time to be negative. I haven't done enough work to justify my taking up space yet. I want to be the oldest man alive ever."

A lot of McKuen's time is spent on charitable efforts, like the *Help Is on the Way* concert on July 29 at the Palace of Fine Arts. The eighth annual fundraising concert, presented by the Richmond-Ermet AIDS Foundation, will feature a long bill of notables performing the works of the late Johnny Mercer.

"Johnny and I wrote a lot of songs that we never finished," McKuen said, "and Margaret Whiting, because she's one of the trustees of the Johnny Mercer Foundation, talked me into finishing the songs."



'The academics can't understand me at all.'

and visible opponent of entertainer Anita Bryant's anti-gay efforts in Florida. He went public with a sexual orientation that included both men and women. "I got cartons of books back from fans," he said. "But I didn't want those kinds of fans anyway."

He was married for a time, and fathered two children. "I really wasn't there for them when I should have been," he said. "I was just too concerned with my career and that sort of thing."

McKuen, who was also in a re-

After he went public with a sexual orientation that included men and women, "I got cartons of books back from fans. But I didn't want those kinds of fans anyway."

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One of the songs we're definitely doing is 'Dream,' which Margaret Whiting and I do together."

McKuen and Whiting will be sharing the stage with Sally Struthers, Bruce Vilanch, Rita Moreno, Wesla Whitfield, Betty Garrett, Debby Boone, and a dozen others.

"It really all started with David Galligan, the producer, who talked me into doing these shows," McKuen said of his return to performing. "I enjoyed it so much I decided to go back on the road again."

Pushy Phyllis

McKuen has deep roots in the Bay Area. He grew up in Oakland, hung out with the Beat poets in San Francisco, and worked at radio station KROW with Phyllis Diller. "When I got out of the Army in 1955, Phyllis had blossomed into a comic and was starring at a place called the Purple Onion. She got me an audition, and that's how I began performing."

He began as a folk singer, switched to rock (which, he said, gave him his distinctive rasp), and then came up with his own hybrid style that gently shared his intimate feelings in songs and poetry.

Stanyan Street and *Other Sorrows* and *Listening to the Warm* are among his 35 books of poetry that sold close to 40 million copies. Critically, they were less well-received.

"The minute you're successful and start earning money from something like selling books of poetry," McKuen said, "the academics can't understand that all."

In 1977, McKuen rocked his own career by becoming a vocal

relationship with a man for 27 years, is resistant to labels. "You spend more time taking shits than you do having sex, so for anyone to put a title on you seems kind of dumb to me. I don't say I'm not gay, but don't consider myself bisexual, and I certainly don't consider myself heterosexual. I do consider myself sexual."

Indeed, he was once very sexual: "I messed around. I did drugs. I did poppers. I had indiscriminate sex. I'm totally shocked that I came out of it without AIDS. There's no reason in the world why I should be healthy, which makes it all the more important for me to lend my name to causes that will get things done."

McKuen's sexual adventures gave way to a long period of abstinence. "I think I was turned off by so many people dying from what was considered a sexual disease," he said. "I thought maybe I had had my share. I figured I still have a good right arm, and occasionally, to surprise myself, I work with my left hand."

No longer abstinent, he is facing new challenges. "I heard these stories that there are all these people who want daddies, and young people who are attracted to older people. Well, that's bullshit," McKuen said. "I'm 69, and I've been trying all year to find someone to do the numbers with." ▼

Help Is on the Way VIII: Hooray for Hollywood, July 29, at the Palace of Fine Arts. Tickets are \$75. Call 273-1620 or go to www.richmondermet.org.

THEATRE

Strictly Luhrmann

Baz to bring 'La Boheme' to San Francisco

by Richard Dodds

Baz Luhrmann is queer. The Australian director of *Strictly Ballroom*, *Romeo + Juliet*, and *Moulin Rouge* admits it. But then again, he thinks all Australians are queer.

"That could be touchy in a headline," he said, "but I'll stand by that because we are queer."

To be fair, the reclaimed word in its modern meaning was not part of Luhrmann's vocabulary when he sat down recently to talk about *La Boheme*, opening Oct. 1 at the Curran Theatre. (Tickets go on sale Aug. 4.)

But the notion, indeed meant as a compliment, that Luhrmann's films have a queer sensibility was introduced during the interview, along with a definition of "queer" that suggests a consistent need/desire to leave the main road for routes more colorful and challenging because they are skewed.

"I've never heard 'queer' identified with that specific description, and I'm from Sydney, where the biggest event, as televised for all families, is the gay Mardi Gras," said the heterosexually married director. "Having said that, I totally understand it and totally embrace it."

After all, this is a man who staged an over-the-top private show on the stage of the Sydney Opera House as part of his marriage to designer and frequent collaborator Catherine Martin. "A large chap who has worked with me for, like, 20 years came flying out of the sky in a pink tutu and married us," Luhrmann said.

How queer is that. "We're as queer as hell," he had to agree.

Queer also implies an unconventional in relationships, and there is some of that as well. "CM [for Catherine Martin] has to share me with a lot of other people," Luhrmann said, "because my creative relationships are so intense and absolute."

They met in 1987 when he was looking for a set and costume designer. "At that point, I had agents kicking in the door repossessing the stereo," he said. "Eventually CM and I got into a formal relationship after much struggle, and this is an area I won't go into because there are others involved. But at a certain moment I realized that we not only spoke to each other creatively, but she was the one person I could reveal myself to with absolute fearlessness in every possible way, and she to me."

It was also at the Sydney Opera House in 1990, two years before *Strictly Ballroom* gave him an international profile, that Luhrmann first staged a risky reimagining of *La Boheme*. Reset in the bohemian world of the 1950s, and with supertitles translating the libretto into an appropriate vernacular, Luhrmann wanted to provide contemporary non-opera fans the chance to maybe feel what the first audiences did more than 100 years ago.

"Puccini was taking a really popular play that was about young boho kids and turning it into a musical work. And so," said Luhrmann, "it's in keeping with

that thinking."

The production is said to be the biggest hit in the history of the Sydney Opera House. For years, the American producers of *Rent*, itself based on *La Boheme*, had been working on Luhrmann to create a new production of it that could run on Broadway.

After they finally succeeded, it was Luhrmann who suggested that the production open first in San Francisco before heading to New York.

He liked the city ("really quite like Sydney") from his time spent editing *Romeo + Juliet* at George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch, and he liked the Curran Theatre because "it's quite like an Italian opera house — quite intimate, quite small."

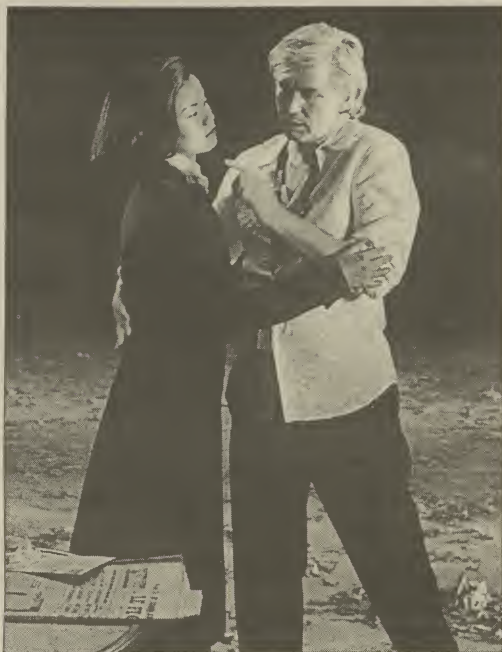
Luhrmann wants it clear that he is indeed directing an opera.

"I'm doing Puccini's opera in Italian," he said, "and I say that so no one buys a ticket expecting, oh, it's Baz Luhrmann, what crazy rock thing has he done with it? Our mission is to reveal the work — this simple, very powerful story told through this incredible music."

Luhrmann considers his first and current productions of *La Boheme* as kind of bookends for a part of his career that he is leaving behind. At several points, he noted that he will turn 40 during his time in San Francisco. It's a turning point that he expects will be reflected in his new *La Boheme*.

"It will be technically different, but I think the spirit will be different, too," Luhrmann said. "My guess is the sort of *joie de vivre*, the rollicking brashness of the original production will give way to a slightly different element, which is the letting go of that youthful idealism, yet not having it destroyed."

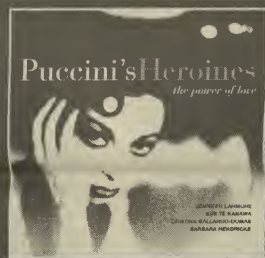
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Director Baz Luhrmann in rehearsal for *La Boheme*, coming to the Curran.

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Nijinsky

◀ Arts cover

death, did the real, impassioned Nijinsky surface, with all his same-sex revelations intact, many not all that celebratory.

This complete version of the diaries has now been made into a part documentary/part celluloid ode, *The Diaries of Vaslav Nijinsky*, by Australian-based director Paul Cox. Clearly, exploring madmen who see the truth more clearly than the sane is not a new topic for Cox. There was *Vincent: The Life and Death of Vincent Van Gogh* (1987) and *Man of Flowers* (1983). In the latter, an elderly lover of art kills a hunky enemy and turns him into an actual statue. And, if I remember correctly, 1975's *The Island* touched upon an obsessive state of affairs, too. (Other Paul Cox efforts include *Innocence*, *Molokai: The Story of Father Damien*, *The Hidden Dimension*, and *Lonely Hearts*.)

Beltless in Moscow

Catching up with Cox in a Central Park West hotel, I was immediately told, "Nijinsky was a gay icon for many, many decades."

I respond how the painter Erté once told me that in his youth, he had seen Nijinsky dance in Moscow. A scandal erupted because Nijinsky was not wearing a dance belt that night, and his protruding genital pouch upset the Czarina greatly.

Laughing, Cox corrects: "Well, he was wearing underwear, but he just had a pair of pants on that showed his balls, and you were not allowed to do that at the time."

Why didn't this significant event make it into his film?

"It gets too complicated," Cox shakes his head. "You can't cover the whole range of things. I wanted to somehow, but it's very pretentious, of course, to give form and shape to this wandering, marvelous spirit." And this Cox accomplishes.

He also captures Nijinsky's immense guilt about his homosexuality. One thinks if Nijinsky hadn't gotten married or if he were living today, when homosexuality is a bit more accepted, he wouldn't have gone insane.

"No, I don't think so," Cox argues. "His soul is sick, not his mind. By that I think it's the old eternal embrace of men. It's much larger. Sometimes you see somebody smiling, and you see all the people in similar situations smile right through the centuries. It was a large embrace. Van Gogh calls it that Great Grave of Man. The insensitivity of man. The insensitivity of man drove him insane."

But Nijinsky had great remorse about having a homosexual inclination. Many of the quotes Cox includes in his film, that were cut out of the original published diaries, deal with this guilt.

"Definitely," Cox agrees. "But at the same time, Nijinsky was also a beast. He was a faun. He went to Diaghilev's hotel and he says in his



Csaba Buda and Delia Silvan in *Nijinsky: The Diaries of Vaslav Nijinsky*

diary, 'I immediately allowed him to make love to me.' What was that about? It was extraordinary. 'It was all the same to me. My mother and I had to eat.' This is extraordinary."

Impressed by Cox's passion, I note not all people are fascinated by those of unsound mind. What drew Cox to Van Gogh and Nijinsky? "I've always been a little insane," the helmer admits, then retracts. "No, I think I'm one of the sanest people I know. I am just interested in people who are right on the edge, who walk around with exposed nerves and bleeding hearts, who are so close to the truth of living, dying and being. And I find it remarkable that here you have two so-called madmen who had actually all by themselves single-handedly changed the future of their medium and became the forefathers of modern art and modern dance, which is extraordinary. These people are supposedly mad. I have this theory that I live in a very insane world."

Loosening grip

I read Nijinsky's diaries way back in my college days, right after Sylvia Plath's *The Bell Jar*, and I truly believe I came close to having a nervous breakdown, because I started questioning what's rational and whether I was indeed sane. While Cox was editing this film, as he was trying to recreate the world as seen through the eyes

of one whose hold on reality was nonexistent, did he ever start to lose his grip? Did he ever start wondering what is sanity? What isn't?

"Well, I've always asked that question," Cox responds. "But indeed, suddenly I was facing such a dark cloud that was very hard to escape. Especially when you're emotionally and physically exhausted, you do wonder a little within, and that certainly happened to me. But there is some sort of strange strength that lifts you. I had to finish this journey, especially because I did it in the old-fashioned way. There was no digitized image or anything. Even the editing was done on the flatbed."

Nijinsky in this film says, "I am God." In a sense, a director is God, except maybe if you work in the Hollywood system. Does Cox feel like a god who's creating his own little world?

"No," he chuckles. "I felt in this case like not even the priest. I felt the altar boy. Now and then I could bring in the wine or the blood of Christ. Then, maybe now and then, I would become the priest at the editing table, for that's where the film was really composed. But I was a servant, and I never regarded myself as any more." ▼

Nijinsky opens Friday.

Backstage

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"At the age of 40, you discover that the world is round and you've gone around the world and you've come back to where you were. So, do you go around again, or start off on another kind of journey, which is the inside journey, the spiritual journey?"

That's the journey he wants to take now, and his next work may reflect that. "This is news for everyone, and you may be hearing something official about it very

soon," Luhrmann said. "I'm thinking of doing a work about a young historical figure who must continually succeed and conquer because of a lack of love, because he is pursuing a phantom love. He goes on and on until there can be no more conquering, and at a certain point you've got to realize that that phantom love will never be found."

Luhrmann unabashedly glows in widespread appreciation. "People often come up to me and say, 'I bet you're sick of hearing this, but I really like — whatever.' I say to them, if you only knew how long

it took to make that work and how much myself and all of us gave to it. That it's not one person getting something from it, you feel you're not wasting your life."

Short scenes

• Theatre Rhino is presenting a sixth serving of its all-queer *Playwright's Stew* on Aug. 1-11. New works by Dave Morrison, Michael Haven, John Arnold, and Dorothy Adams make up the bill on the first weekend, and Aloise Stratford, Trevor Allen, Claudia Barr, and Felix Racelis are the play-

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FILM

Deep into their world

'Read My Lips,' 'Me Without You'

by David Lamble

A sexy French pop thriller for our time like *Diva* was for the New Wave era, Jacques Audiard's fourth feature finds its unlikely heroine in Carla (Emmanuelle Devos), a partially deaf 35-year-old woman, languishing in a job with much responsibility but little power in a Parisian real estate office. Carla places an ad for an assistant that reads like a personal ad and gets a reply from the very scruffy, snarky, and handsome Paul (Vincent Cassel), a paroled thief. Paul's clumsy attempt at rough sex with Carla pays unexpected dividends in an odd office alliance and at Paul's night job, bartending for a mob-owned dance club. Lip-reading gives Carla power over Paul, as Audiard and Devos make her deafness our portal to her dreams. Raw violence is the ace up his sleeve.

Audiard and writing partner Tonino Benacquista fearlessly skateboard over genre boundaries: is it a romantic comedy or a thriller? Cassel and Devos slip beat by sweaty beat into characters that are miles from their real selves, settling into an edgy routine like an old married couple. They've not had sex, are they already past it? *Lips* takes a full two hours of virtually nonstop action to answer that question.

Mathieu Vadepied's handheld closeups put us spitting close as Carla and Paul collapse into each other's worlds. Paris looks downright drab, the underbelly of everyone's World Class city. Habitual loners, she can't dance, he can barely talk. The first hint of intimacy shows hands fumbling over a stick-shift as they swap turns dozing in the shotgun seat.

My Dogma rule: absolutely no vomiting. Yet the scene where Paul gets upchucked on by his crime boss' mousy frau is one of the best-staged and motivated puke scenes in cinema history. Few Hollywood A-list guys would allow themselves to be so abjectly soiled in a bottom-feeder role. The violence is gripping, and shot partially offscreen.

Carla and Paul's disabilities are played like jazz, as Carla uses her hearing aid's volume knob to control her descent into Paul's world. During a bar spat, we hear a sample of Billie Holiday, "Them that's got shall get," sudden silence, then, "He's got his own." As Paul is pounded in the face, a thug cries, "Stop hitting him, I'm sick of picking him up," a throwaway line that will scream out at us in the

Vincent Cassel and Emmanuelle Devos in Jacques Audiard's *Read My Lips*

inevitable American remake. Opens Friday.

Dole years

Sandra Goldbacher's *Me Without You* is a dark spoof of the Thatcher years (a guy shouts out at a party, "It used to be hip to be on the dole!") We follow Holly (Dawson's Creek's Michelle Williams) and Marina (Anna Friel) as they navigate the '80s, the remote perpetually on fast-forward. Much is made of the Jew/Goy divide separating their two families, living cheek-to-jowl in matching fake Tudor houses in Surrey, with the harsh botanical agenda of the English middle class. Holly's dad sniffs, "If God had meant for us to do gardening, why would he have invented Gentiles?" while Marina's dad dances with his drugged-out wife to "I've Got You, Babe."

Going through a romantic punk debauch (from Adam Ant to Nick Drake) like a couple for whom boys are handy appliances, shocking only if you tried to unplug them at the socket, Holly wakes up in a strange bed to ask Marina, "Is this a party?" Her friend sighs, "At least I tried heroin."

To Goldbacher, the downside of the intense female bonds formed in one's teens is a kind of incest without sex: your best friend knows you better than you know yourself, and thinks she's doing you a favor when she seduces men with whom you had planned to have bad affairs. "They're all pigs, Holly. You'll always have me."

Michelle Williams rules, nicely grasping Holly's "ugly duckling"

undervaluing of the talents Marina so envies, in a role that is the flip side of her bubbly TV bad girl. The plum role of Holly's true love, Marina's cute brother Nat, is astutely given to Oliver Milburn, who radiates, with the bedroom eyes of a young Rob Lowe. Kyle MacLachlan, on parole from David Lynchland, plays a lecherous college tutor with the confused air of a young Humbert Humbert who is nervously juggling two Lolitas. Opens Aug. 2. ▼

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Backstage

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wrights represented during the second weekend. Call 861-5079.

• It's the ninth year for the AfroSolo Arts Festival, now a four-weekend occasion begun and still headed by gay writer-actor Thomas Simpson. Inaugurated as a theatrical showcase, it has expanded to include dance, music, spoken word, visual arts, a community forum on HIV/AIDS, and a free outdoor jazz concert in Yerba Buena Gardens. A full schedule is available at www.afrosolo.org, or call 771-2376.

• The New Conservatory Theatre Center opens its *Twist &*

Shout season of co-productions on July 27 with a hard-to-describe premiere. *The Ken and Andy Show*, created and performed by Ken Taylor and Andy Barrett, bills itself as "a soy-based entertainment substitute, a metaphysical comedy, and a staggering *tour de force* of narcissism." Call 861-8972.

• From the folks who gave you *The Duboce Triangle* and *Co-dependent Lesbian Space Alien Seeks Same* now comes *Off White Party Weekend*. Conceived and directed by John Morace, this musical send-up of 1990s circuit parties opens Aug. 3 on Theatre Rhino's mainstage. Call 861-5079. ▼

Richard Dodds can be reached at Barstage@aol.com.



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Tribal rhythms

2002 Jewish Film Festival opens at Castro

by David Lamble

Ten highlights of the 22nd SF Jewish Film Festival, July 25-Aug. 12 at various venues:

1. Sobibor, October 14, 1943, 4 p.m. Claude Lanzmann's 10-hour autopsy of the Holocaust, *Shoah*, has spawned a partial sequel, a gripping, 95-minute first-person account of the only successful Jewish uprising in a Nazi death camp, based on a survivor's interview. Yehuda Lerner was 17 on October 14, 1943, when he was asked to kill a German officer in the camp's tailor shop, hiding the fresh corpse under a pile of clothes.

Lanzmann is a French filmmaker whose methods are so rigorous as to seem banal. Shunning archival footage, his lens cuts to some deceptively mundane scene: a freight train rumbling through the Polish countryside, or a swarm of geese in a spastic ballet. The method to this madness — the Nazis raised the geese so their sounds would drown out the cries of human beings in a gas chamber — is an existential question floating off the screen, landing softly as a feather. (Castro, 7/29; Wheeler, 8/6)

2. The Inner Tour Israeli Ra'anan Alexandrowicz films Palestinian families taking a bus tour through former Arab villages, and in the process constructs a poignant journey into the past. Reflecting on all the invaders who have occupied the Holy Land, we hear a Palestinian man whispering to a friend, "Perhaps we were not worthy of such a beautiful place." (Castro, 7/28; Wheeler, 8/6)

3. Ruthie and Connie: Every Room in the House Two middle-class Jewish housewives leave their husbands, find each other, and then battle 25 years of homophobia and guilt to become the unofficial den mothers of the New York queer movement. (Castro, 7/29; Wheeler, 8/4; Park, 8/5)

4. Mamadrama: The Jewish Mother in Cinema Monique Schwarz is miffed that Jewish mamas don't get no respect at the movies (or at least in Hollywood). Her thesis is that the Jewish mother-bashing flicks in the '60s & '70s were a case of Portnoy's Revenge, second-generation American directors like Carl Reiner and Paul Mazursky asserting their manhood by catering to the stereotype of pushy, loud, emasculating women. Mazursky counters that



Foreign Sister: Israeli matron meets, bonds with Ethiopian Christian.

the domineering mother in his film *Next Stop, Greenwich Village* was an accurate portrait. "I don't think I would have made it had she been alive, because I was afraid of her." (Castro, 7/29; Wheeler, 8/4)

5. Foreign Sister The real argument for the defense in the trial of Jewish mothers comes in Dan Wolman's artfully constructed slice-of-life agit-prop drama set in Tel Aviv. Naomi spends 24/7 keeping her family moving, in a routine that would challenge a NASCAR pit crew. Hubby begs her to get some help, which brings her face to face with Negist, a member of a growing community of Ethiopian Christians. The women bond unexpectedly after Negist refuses to work for Naomi's racist mother-in-law. In a climax that would read as fake in a US film, Naomi learns just how hard some folks have it below the bottom rung of Israeli society. (Castro, 8/1; Park, 8/4; Wheeler, 8/5; Rafael, 8/12)

6. Fantasy Another Country is the same story in drag disguise. Samy Gaber is a Palestinian Israeli, exiled from his family in Jaffa. His friend Michael Shimeon, a Yemenite Jew, also can't go home to his religious village. With their families, Samy and Michael are misfits; in Tel Aviv, with other drag performers, they are a kind of Israeli Wigstock nation. (Castro, 7/30; Wheeler, 7/6)

7. Lifetime Guarantee: Phranc's Adventures in Plastic In this hilarious and poignant account of a lesbian punk singer's

midlife crisis and transformation into a Tupperware lady, we see that Phranc's need to fit in, despite a taste for male drag, is painfully real. The film juxtaposes comic Tupperware-party sales pitches with Phranc's bitter asides about not being accepted as a "leftovers" king. She guest stars on *The Donnie and Marie Show*, gets accolades from her sales peers, but is still snubbed by Tupperware brass. All this, and the recipe for removing Tupperware stains. (Castro, 7/30; Wheeler, 8/6)

8. Desperado Square An oddball ensemble piece, this quirky little community of Greek Jews, outside Tel Aviv, plays like a mixture of *Cinema Paradiso*, *Bagdad Cafe* and a John Ford Western. (Castro, 7/27; Wheeler, 8/7; Park, 8/8; Rafael, 8/12)

9. A Home on the Range Jewish chicken farmers in Petaluma? Bonnie Burt and Judith Montell's answer to this question is like a Jewish *Grapes of Wrath*, as a hardy band of Eastern European refugees discovers Depression-era Sonoma County to be more like rural Georgia than today's picture-postcard Wine Country. Attracted to the poultry business by its promise of economic independence and religious freedom, the Jewish chicken farmers were literally tarred and feathered by righteously rednecks, as well as beset by splits in the community between Zionist and left-wing factions. Finished off by agribusiness in the '60s, Jewish chicken farmers left colorful souvenirs such as the little-known tradition of Yiddish singing cowboys. (Castro, 7/31; Wheeler, 8/4)

10. Gimme a Kiss Lilly Rivlin confesses that, like many little girls, she had a crush on her dashing daddy. The news that he had a series of mistresses was devastating — why didn't her mother leave the dad? Rivlin casts an unsentimental eye on the indignities of aging — at one point, Dad, a double amputee, waves his stumps at the camera, while Mom, bedridden from a stroke, endures an X-rated version of *This Little Piggy*. Not for the squeamish, but a poetic exercise in nonfiction storytelling that will strike a chord with those whose families suffered from the painful fallout of dark secrets. (Castro, 8/1; Wheeler, 8/8) ▼



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Our history matters

by Deborah Peifer

Karl Heinrich Ulrichs was a pioneer in the gay rights movement, 100 years before we called ourselves gay. He was an out homosexual (also before the word homosexual was coined; he used the term Urning) who spoke out for our rights long before it was safe to do so, and helped to develop a theory of homosexuality that was not based on pathology. Hubert Kennedy wrote an extraordinary biography of Ulrichs in 1988, but the discovery of a considerable body of new information led him to revise the biography. Unable to find a publisher for the revised edition, Kennedy decided to make the book available online for free. Karl Heinrich

Ulrichs, *Pioneer of the Modern Gay Movement* is a remarkable tale, written with skill and clarity. After all, we can't expect others to respect our history if we don't know it ourselves. The book can be found at Kennedy's website: <http://home.pac-bell.net/hubertk/>

Turning points

If the horrors of Bush the Lesser have got you down, a return to the golden days of the '60s may be just the ticket to renew your faith in the importance of protest. Richie Unterberger appears at The Booksmith (1644 Haight St.) on August 6, 7 p.m., to read from his new book, *Turn! Turn! Turn!: The '60s Folk-*

Rock Revolution, a chronicle of the music that helped foment that rebellious decade. Rare videos of some of the musicians discussed in the book will be shown.

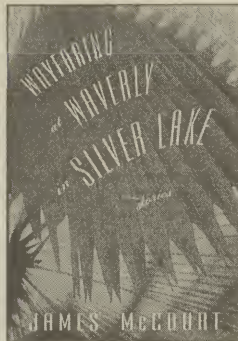


Book Report

Also at The Booksmith (August 12, 7 p.m.), Kristine Clark reads from *Undeclared, Untied, and Uninvited*, the remarkable story of the 1951 University of San Francisco football team, considered one of the greatest college squads of all time. Despite their flawless record, the Dons were snubbed by bowl games because two African-Americans played for the team. Clark will be joined by USF players Burl Toler (the first black official in the NFL) and Bob St. Clair (a member of the Pro-Football Hall of Fame) for this very special event.

Elizabeth Partridge reads from *This Land Was Made for You and Me: The Life And Songs of Woody Guthrie*, and Marc Silber sings Guthrie songs, in an afternoon celebrating the legendary folk singer and songwriter at Cody's (1730 Fourth St., Berkeley), July 27 at 2 p.m.

And if you're wondering whether it's worth your time and effort to attend a book reading, consider the experience of Auntie Tortuga Bi Liberty: "At A Different Light, James McCourt is reading from *Wayfaring at Waverly in Silver Lake*. Here's all this beautiful language, all this elegant cultural analysis, all this talent being wasted on something which, deep, deep down in its innermost secret soul, is so shallow. So the designated dissenter snarls, 'Do you find anything real in Los Angeles?' And, bang, no warm-up, no balking at the gate, no searching for the right phrase, he's racing along, improvising a complex five-minute essay, instantly as polished and magical as a normal writer's 10th



draft, temporarily convincing even Hellay-haters that, yes-yes, there is a there there. Stone under tinsel. If only ADL could get a lit-hist grant to audiotape readings."

Just think: you could have been there and shared that extraordinary encounter. So leave the tube off one night, and let a writer know that the writing matters to you. You and the writer may just experience something amazing.

Requiescat in Pace

When I made the decision to go to graduate school, 15 years after I'd been an undergraduate, I suffered a significant crisis in confidence. Lucky for me, I took a class on Shakespeare from J. L. Styan, the author of *Shakespeare's Stagecraft*, *The Shakespeare Revolution*, *Modern Drama in Theory and Practice*, and *The English Stage*. John Styan was a brilliant teacher who encouraged his students to take risks and to think creatively. He also wrote with wit, style and extraordinary erudition. He convinced me that I could do the work at a time when I was quite unsure of that possibility myself. His death this month is a terrible loss for anyone who loves to learn, who loves the theatre, who loves Shakespeare. And if you think you don't love Shakespeare, reading one of John's books about the Bard will change your mind. ▼

Contact Book Report at
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Ann Miller

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But in 1953, she landed her best part, Bianca, in Cole Porter's *Kiss Me Kate*, stealing the picture from the nominal female lead, Kathryn Grayson. Miller's memorable performing of "It's Too Darn Hot," "Give Me Tom, Dick, or Harry," and "Always True to You Darling in my Fashion" earned her the best reviews of her career. *Small Town Girl* with Jane Powell was not in the same league, nor was *Deep in my Heart* (1954).

In 1955, she *Hit the Deck* (the best thing in it), before being one of *The Opposite Sex* (1956), the disappointing remake of *The Women*. She ended her tenure at MGM watching *The Great American Pastime* (1956).

In 1969, she became the most lauded post-Angela Lansbury *Mame* on Broadway. The producers re-choreographed "That's How

Young I Feel" into a full dance routine for her. She eclipsed Ann-Margret in a television *Dames at Sea* (1971) and published her autobiography, *Miller's High Life*, in 1972. From 1979-'82, she and fellow Metro alumnus Mickey Rooney were the toasts of Broadway in *Sugar Babies*, which resurrected burlesque and vaudeville routines, garnering her a Tony Award nomination. The New York success was repeated during a four-year national tour, and again in London in 1989. Clips of her best work were part of *That's Entertainment I and II*. In 1994, she hosted the Astaire sequence in *That's Entertainment III*.

Today, movie musicals are a rarity, and many of their stars can't sing or dance, which does little to revive the genre. Watching Miller in her top films is the best way to understand why the Hollywood musical was one of the great achievements of the old studio system. ▼

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FILM

Swimming with guppies

Gary Winick's delightful 'Tadpole'

by Robert Julian

It isn't easy to be a precocious 15-year-old high school sophomore, a native New Yorker, and a devotee of Voltaire. But Oscar Grubman shoulders these burdens with relative ease until his life becomes complicated by an unrequited passion for his stepmother. When that passion spills over into an actual affair with his stepmother's fortysomething best friend, Oscar knows he's in deep doo-doo.

Director Gary Winick's first film, *Tadpole*, is a delightful slice of urban sophistication, fueled by winning performances and an exceptionally intelligent screenplay by Heather McGowan and Niels Mueller. The urgency of life at the age of 15 is rarely captured with this sort of charm and insight, and Aaron Stanford's definitive por-

trayal of Oscar Grubman is as effective as Dustin Hoffman's 1967 debut in *The Graduate*.

Stanford receives wonderful support from John Ritter as Oscar's father and Sigourney Weaver as his wise, even-tempered stepmother. But the film's most delicious performance comes from Bebe Neuwirth as the older woman who welcomes Oscar into her bed. Neuwirth portrays a happily single Manhattan chiropractor with a boring boyfriend and an adventurous libido. She is sexy, smart, and unapologetic about the spontaneous combustion that takes place between her and Oscar. Neuwirth's portrayal is so effective because she successfully creates a character that is world-wise, not world-weary, and playful without being predatory. When supporting actress Oscar nominations come out next year,

look for her name.

The film's most hilarious scene takes place in an upscale Manhattan restaurant, with all the key players seated at the same table. It is full of exquisitely awkward moments that will make you laugh out loud and squirm with discomfort at the same time — no small accomplishment. *Tadpole* is a little gem, but after seeing it, gay and lesbian viewers should take a moment to reflect on just what would have happened to this film if Oscar's lover were a fortysomething male friend of his stepmother's. Would that film find a distributor, and would it avoid the charges of statutory rape and pedophilia that never surface in this film? It's a question worth pondering. ▼

Tadpole opens Friday at the Embarcadero.



Aaron Stanford makes a strong debut as Oscar Grubman in *Tadpole*.

Pork loins

by John F. Karr

MSR Videos is the company whose logo reads, not incorrectly, "Where the hottest men are always pigs." They've consistently delivered pigish behavior, and their newest releases don't let up.

Most successful is *L.A. Sex Party*. It's a follow up to *Manhattan Sex Party*, the particularly slutty leather orgy which proved controversial when it seemed to exceed the porn industry's self-imposed limits of safer sex. *L.A. Sex Party* tones things down a bit, though not enough to dampen our enjoyment of a swell cast

piggling out in a seemingly genuine underground masonry dungeon. It's very atmospheric. Although a sling figures prominently, that's only for its ability to support fucking, not kink. There are no dildos, no fists, no piss, no pain. Just a lot of rough and reckless abandon as grown men go body on body, in a nonstop style that recalls the good old days of classic Gage Brothers orgies.

It seems there's only one camera, but though it's busy, it's not skittish — it'll linger just where you'd like. The impressive 15-member cast includes the lubriciously cocksucking Joey Russo; a Sam Elliot lookalike with a thick

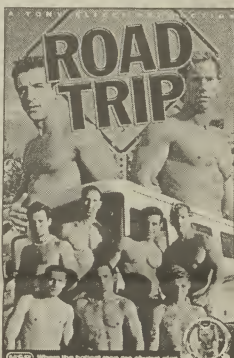
mustache and thicker cock; Gabriel Cortes, upholding his Chief Pig title; Jackson Philips, taking on all cummers; and the smashing arrival of Trent Cougar. He seemed emaciated and wasn't given much of a chance to make an impression in a small role in *Conquered*. But in *L.A. Sex Party*, we suddenly see that Cougar's all man: big and burly, ruggedly handsome, slightly weathered,

omnivorously sexual, and beautifully hung. Though deeply tanned, Cougar is fair-skinned, with caramel-colored public hair and a peaches 'n' cream cock that's solid and cylindrical as a rolling pin. It's a high-class

package that looks especially nice squeezed by a black cockring. Trent'll make you wanna stay at this party all night.

The behavior in *Road Trip* may be a little less piggish, as in sloppy, but it's no less effective. And continual, with the mood sustained by the pleasing absence of dialogue. The premise is simple. Rough Daddy Steven Richards is driving into the desert in his RV. Inside it, the passengers suck and fuck. When Richards pulls off the road, they suck and fuck in the desert. Then they pick up a hitchhiker, and gangbang him atop a hill of desert rock. As a hardly needed change of pace, there's a side trip, an intently probing interlude with glamour blond Trey Rexx (très sexy) and his swarthy, brunette boyfriend, Leo Bramm. The RV's passengers include Joey Russo, looking lowdown with his hair and beard grown out, and a smart-alecky newcomer with the heavy-handed fake name Rhett O'Hara (why not Scarlet Butler?) This kid's a tasty bit of trouble, with a cocky grin, gangland tats, and a full platter of meat and potatoes — a real mouth- and bun-stretcher. And he's a shooter, too, with a youngster's impetuous and copious load.

Road Trip could use a little more finesse. We almost always join a fuck in mid-stroke, without



lead-up or insertion. Both the interlude and the finale are episodic where they could have been epic. But *Road Trip* succeeds in direct relation to the (seeming) lack of effort expended on it. It's unpretentious, rolls out easy, and stays hard.

White Trash, the most recent MSR release, sours its basically jaunty attitude and generally tasty sex by crowding them with the overdose of detailing that's gone into creating a trailer-trash environment. For one thing, the sex scenes are unnecessarily separated with yards of screechy dialogue presented by a trio of biological women. They're bad actresses trying to act bad; it's excruciating. And I became uncomfortable with the movie's sexual attitude long before the finale, in which a pig thief is hog-tied and fucked. Throughout *White Trash*, the sex act is depicted as an instrument of abuse. That may be what white trash masculinity is all about, but it's wearisome.

Still, the opening glorifies a glorious cock, with Trent Cougar getting superb head during eight minutes of prime cocksucking. It's *bonne bouche* spelled bone. And Clay Maverick looks great and acts gruff, presiding over a rowdy threeway in a gas station restroom, where Anthony Shaw gets bountifully boffed. Despite getting atypically carried away with plotting in *White Trash*, Tony Alizzi is the sure-handed director of MSR's videos, and he gets crystal clear lighting and photography from his collaborators. ▼

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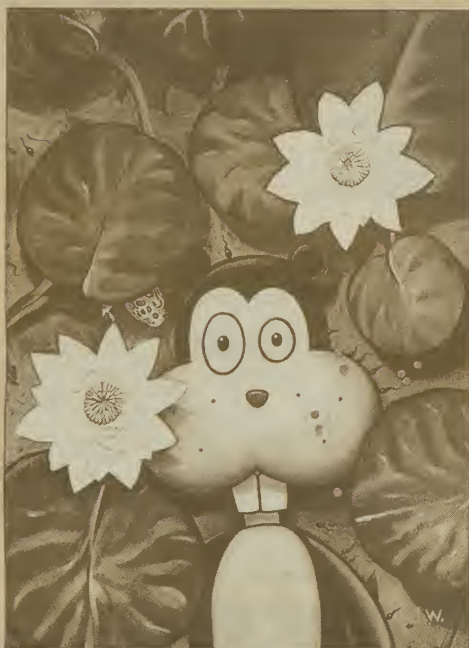
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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare by Mark Mardon



Jim Woodring unveils *Mysterio Simpatico* and more at YBCA

Comix eggsibit

It's party time for comics lovers in San Francisco, because two museums are going bonkers with full-blown exhibitions offering cartoons enough to get just about everyone laughing and crying with delight and revelation.

The festivities take place on Friday, July 26 at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and the Cartoon Art Museum, both conveniently located in the same artsy neighborhood. The YBCA spectacular is dubbed "Fantastic! The Art of Comics and Illusion," and it's where art and pop culture collide in four wacky exhibitions that look at the new shape of comics and the sometimes confounding nature of perception.

Among the offerings is "Raw, Boiled and Cooked," organized by local comics enthusiast and guest curator Paul Candler, who has brought together the works of myriad artists featured in or inspired by RAW, the groundbreaking publication founded by Art Spiegelman (*Maus: A Survivor's Tale*) and Francoise Mouly in the 1980s. View the work of European artists never before translated and published in the U.S., as well as upcoming native talent.

"Bay Area Blast," organized by Candler, David Robson and YBCA Visual Arts Curator René de Guzman, assembles a cross-section of local cartoon talents, with works by (among others) Judd Winick, whose graphic novel *Pedro and Me* is a tribute to his roommate from MTV's *The Real World*.

A massive installation called "Widescreen" presents select panels from several major cartoonists, including S/M fetishist Michael Manning, all blown up to spectacular dimensions in Gallery 3. This is comic entertainment on a Hollywood blockbuster level.

Live entertainment at YBCA will be provided by laptop pioneers Cat 5, the dynamic Portland-based art-rockers Laurel Canyon, and magical illusions and comic antics by Gregangelo & Velocity Circus.

Tickets for the YBCA show are \$10 advance, \$12 door, and free for YBCA Members and a guest. The party runs 8-11 p.m. at 701 Mission St. (at 3rd St.). Call 978-ARTS or surf www.YerbaBuenaArts.org.

Meanwhile, from 6-9 p.m. at the Cartoon Art Museum (655 Mission St., between 3rd St. and New Montgomery), two more cartoon exhibitions get unveiled.

"Zap, Crash And Burn: Underground Comix and the Bay Area," focuses on the cartooning movement's explosive era emerging especially from the countercultures of San Francisco and Berkeley. This show traces the currents of revolutionary art, with representative works from such notables as Robert Crumb, Vaughan Bode, Gilbert Shelton, Spain Rodriguez, Trina Robbins, Willy Mendes, Lee Mars, and Victor Moscoso.

"Arnold Roth: Free Lance" offers a 50-year retrospective of original works from the private collection of the cartoonist who has "done it all," including syndicated comic strips, political and sports cartoons, book jackets and illustrations, animation and countless magazine illustrations.

Admission to the Cartoon Art Museum is \$5 adults, \$3 students & seniors, and \$2 children ages 6-12. For details, call CAR-TOON, (227-8666). ▼

Fri

ODC Theater

"Interactions," a summer showing of works-in-progress, featuring excerpts from the *Quilt Project* that draw on African American roots, as well as artists who work in extremely different genres not typically associated with African American stereotypes. *Quilt* is a collaboration between ODC Theater artist-in-residence, composer Wayne Wallace, and choreographers Laura Elaine Ellis, Aisha Jenkins, Robert Moses and Robert Henry Johnson and performance artist Marc Bamuthi Joseph. *Quilt* is inspired by African American quilt maker Faith Ringgold, specifically her work titled *They Came to America*, a piece she created in response to James Baldwin's book *The Fire Next Time*. \$7-\$10. 8pm. Also Sat., July 27. 3153 17th St. (at Shotwell). Tix/info: 863-9834; ticketweb.com; odctheater.org

Castro Theatre

Marc Huestis presents "Too Darn Hot!" a Technicolor evening featuring stage and screen legend Ann Miller, live on stage, interviewed by Jan Wahl, with a screening of "Kiss Me Kate" (1953), shown in its original 3-D. Plus performances by tapping tornado Matthew Martin, and Connie Champagne as Judy Garland. Partial proceeds benefit Survive AIDS. \$25 Gala; \$50 Meet & Greet + Gala. 6pm Meet & Greet/reception with Ann Miller; 8pm Gala w/screening of *Kiss Me Kate* (1953), shown in its original 3-D. Tix/info: 863-0611; A Different Light Bookstore.

Double Play Bar

"Funny Filthy Women," an evening of comedy by some of the funniest women in the Bay Area. \$8. 8pm. 2401 16th St. (at Bryant).

Dolores Park Cafe

"San Francisco Songs," a music series showcasing Bay Area songwriters. Tonight: Garrin Benfield (*Nowhere is Brighter*, Eighth Note Records), and Alexis Harte (*Jungebug*, Mentl Music). The series is co-produced by series host Deborah Pardes (musician/owner of Mentl Music). No cover. 7:30-9:30pm. Corner of 18th and Dolores streets. Info: Dolores Park Cafe, 621-2936.

Club Fab, Russian River

"QComedy Showcase," hosted by Blake and Pippl Lovestocking, starring Bridget Schwartz, Janis Lipton, Nick Leonard and Amy Boyd. \$8. 9:30pm. River theatre, 16135 Main St., Guerneville. Tix/info: (707) 869-5708; www.ClubFAB.com; www.QComedy.com

Mission High

Ladyfest Bay Area presents: "Music Night Show," featuring a blazing line-up of live bands: Half-Seas-Over, Daphne Gottlieb, Disposable Boy Toys, Gravy Train, Nazelah Jamison, Sister of the Underground, Bangs, Penny Arcade, and Bratmobile. \$14 at door (free w/ Ladyfest \$55 3-day or \$70 5-day pass). Doors open 7:30pm; showtime 8pm-midnight. Mission High School Auditorium, 3750

18th St. (btwn Church & Dolores). For complete festival schedule see www.ladyfestbayarea.org. Tix: Modern Times Bookstore (888 Valencia Street at 20th St., SF); Mod Lang Records (2136 University Ave. at Shattuck, Berkeley); and Mama Bears Women's Books (6536 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland).

Decibel

Green Gorilla Lounge and Spacelounge present "Wig Wham," a wigged-out wig party with serious dancing sounds in two rooms by DJs M3, Ellen Ferrato, Julius Papp, Anthony Garlic, Burz-erk, Jai Young, Chris Haycock, Teresa, and The Shissler. 9pm-4am. 21 + w/D. 699 Market St. (at 3rd St.). Info: www.spacelounge.com

The Black Box, Oakland

Reception for Naked Souls Collective artists. Eric Baily will be exhibiting new works on canvas, along with fellow artists Chris Gonzales, Kim Cogan, Jose Flores, Justin Price, and Mark Buswell. These works are dripping with profound insight and youthful vitality. An evening of eye-popping Artworks, spoken word spit, and bounce-your-body DJ grooves. 7pm. \$5 after 8pm. 1928 Telegraph Ave. (btwn 19 & 20 sts.), downtown Oakland (1 block from 19th St. BART) Info: 510-451-1932.

Sat

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Opening night: "The Ken and Andy Show," a Metaphysical Comedy presented by NCTC and Ken Taylor and Andrew Barrett. Ken and Andy are the two most self-absorbed people on the face of the planet. Ken is sure every world event stems directly from his actions, and that he can cure world hunger just with his mind. Andy wears only a green Speedo around the house, and through yoga hones his body into an antenna receiving signals from the astral plane. When a satanic defector from the Yoda Council maneuvers to steal Earth's soul, Ken and Andy are called on to be larger than their narcissism. This show opens NCTC's first Twist and Shout Co-Production Theatre Festival. \$15-\$25. 8pm. (2pm Sun. July 28 and Aug. 4 & 11). 25 Van Ness Ave. (near Market). Tix/info: 861-8972; www.ticketweb.com

Queer Jitterbugs @ The Center

New York Style Salsa and Swing. All ages. No partner or experience needed. \$10 (volunteers free). 6:30pm swing lesson; 7:30pm salsa lesson; 9pm-midnight dancing. Info: 305-8242; www.queerjitterbugs.com

848 Community Space

"Perverts Put Out!" The long-running and ever-popular literary smut-salon returns! Always humorous, irreverent, and fun. Come experience the cutting edge of erotic fiction, with presentations by local writer/performers. Costumes, including fetish wear and birthday suits, are welcome. \$12-\$20 sliding. 8pm sharp (seating limited; arrive early). 848 Divisadero St. Tix: 431-



The incandescent "Pissing Tits" fountain greets revelers at the hot new queer club Zodiac. See Saturday.

0171; email PP0@black-books.com.

Mission High

Ladyfest Bay Area presents: "Music Night Show," featuring Quality Bad MCs (SF's famous all-girl roller gang), Squab, Mr. V (Marcus Rene Van) & Rocco, Jymini, Tribe 8, Michelle Tea, Boy Wonder, The Gossip, Inga Muscio, The Donnas. \$14 at door (free w/ Ladyfest \$55 3-day or \$70 5-day pass). Doors open 7:30pm; showtime 8pm-midnight. Mission High School Auditorium, 3750 18th St. (btwn Church & Dolores). Tix/info: www.ladyfestbayarea.org

21 Grand Gallery, Oakland

"The Oakland Harsh Noise Festival," uniting noise musicians from all over the Bay Area, with multiple genre perspectives (jazz, academic experimental, metal and more), curated by Tyler Cox. Performers include the chaotic spectacle Uberkunst; sonic alchemist Thomas Dimuzio; solo experimental noise project XOME; Compomico Dexasal (noise, free-jazz, punk, grindcore, and 20th century classical/experimental); the explosive, emetic sonic overload of Stimbox; the elusive misanthropic Pedestrian Deposit; and Saint of Killers, whose objective is to leave listeners with the sensation that beauty and happiness can only be found once one can actually acknowledge the ugliness and horror that is human nature. Light projections by Thrall Visuals. \$5. 6pm. 449b 23rd St. (at Telegraph), Oakland. Info: 510-44GRAND; www.21grand.org

StudioZ

Jeff & Gary present "Zodiac," the hot new weekly dance/music/art club. With resident DJs Jeff Chandler (Reform Skool; Star69), Joseph Lee (Ball of Pride; Progress), Solar (Sunset Parties; Pacific Sound), Discovery (Grooveyard; Reform Skool), Travis (original Liquid), and Monkeyboy (Reform Skool; Star69). \$15 (free b411pm w/flyer). 21 + 2/D. 314 11th St. (at Folsom, the former Transmission Theater). Info: 252-7666.

Sun

Dore Alley

The 19th annual "Up Your Alley" street fair, presented by SMMILE (South of Market Merchants) and Individuals' Lifestyles Events). Bene-

ficiaries include the GLBT Historical Society; Quan Yin Healing Arts Center; The Center for Caregiver Training; AIDS/HIV, Hepatitis-C Nightline; Healing Waters; Project Inform, Inc.; Out & Equal Workplace Advocate; Harvey Milk Institute; Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center; and Maitri. Put on your leather and show support for these charities while reveling in a day of sun, fun, flesh and fetish. Donation encouraged. 11am-6pm. Dore Alley btwn Folsom and Howard and the adjoining block of Folsom St. btwn 9th and 10th sts. Info: www.folsomstreetfair.com

Glaskat

ptyrone presents "Play," a Dore Alley T-dance where men and their playful sexy spirits can "Engage Their Desires" as the muse arouses them. DJ Jeff Johnson (Pleasuredome, Universe, Empire) makes his final SF appearance. Bring your leather, handkerchiefs and blindfolds. A benefit for Maitri, a 15-bed residential facility for low income people living with AIDS. \$10 advance (at The Barking Frog, Body Body Wear, and Mr. S. Leather); \$15 b4 6:30pm at door; \$20 after. Party till midnight. 520 4th St. (at Bryant). Tix/info: www.ptyronepre-sents.com

Fifes Guest Ranch, Russian River

In concert: Gwen Avery and The Blues Sistahs. When Gwen "Sugar Mama" Avery is in the house, you know of sure the music is going to be grooving. The powerful blues singer introduces her stellar new band, The Blues Sistahs. Cabins, cottages, and campsites on 15 acres in the redwoods, with heated pool, restaurant, bar and dancing. Concert tix: \$3 (guests of Fifes free). 7pm. 16467 Highway 116, Guerneville. Info: (707) 869-0656; www.fifes.com

Jon Sims Center for the Arts

Special screening: "Queer Groupie," a documentary in progress by Maureen Futter, whose 30-minute piece explores queer identity in popular music as exemplified by three bands, the dyke-punk band Running Ragged (the spiritual offspring of Bikini Kill and Tribe 8), transgender singer Madame Jo (cabaret star of the upscale bistro Café de Paris), and the Dixieland Dykes + 3 (all glitter and good times, playing of fashioned American swing). Futter is a recent graduate of SF State University's Interdisciplinary

Arts program, where she produced "Queer Groupie" for her thesis project. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 7:30pm. 1519 Mission St. Info: 554-0402; www.jon-simsctr.org

Mission Playground

"HICCUP San Francisco," an afternoon of Basketball, Wrestling with Tucky Duggit, Dodgeball, Volleyball, Jump rope, Frisbee, Toys, Games, Nonsense & Booty Wagglin' with DJ Beet. "HICCUP" is an all-inclusive, non-clique neighborhood shindig that welcomes all "synthetic fudge-packers, amazon princesses, hankerin' trannies, leather tu-tu'd dykes d'jour, gendfuckers, butchie-faggots, boudicious bi bubbas, chunky munchers, roamin' homos, mac-lust lesbians, muscle mamas, t-dancin'-papis, mixers & chasers, tomboy bruisers, lip-stick smudgers, nelly potbellies, intersexy mesterisses, andro cherrypoppers, baby bears, bad bad boys, fishstick suckers, and your best pals, too!" Check phobias at the gate & bring yay! Absolutely no lindy-hop, hog-tie, stilt-walking, lane-splitting, deep-throating nor hoop-tossing skilz required. Klutzes worshipped. Free. 2-6pm every 4th Sunday. Mission Playground on Valencia Street, between 19th & 20th. Info: email hiccup@kithology.com

Mon 29

QComedy @ The Center

"QComedy Showcase," Monday night gay comedy hosted by Karen Ripley, with Amy Boyd, Lisa Geduldig, Ken Miller, Amma, Larry-bob, Reannie Roads, and Bridget Schwartz. \$8-\$15. 8pm-11pm. 1800 Market St. (at Octavia). Tix/info: 865-5633; www.QComedy.com

Palace of Fine Arts Theater

The Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation presents "Help is On the Way VIII: Hooray for Hollywood," an all-star benefit concert featuring the music of the great Johnny Mercer and a celebrity-studded gala featuring B'way singer Margaret Whiting, TV star Sally Struthers, TV/film star Loretta Devine, poet Rod McKuen, comedian Bruce Vilanch, TV stars Jill Eikenberry & Michael Tucker, singer/actress Debby Boone, B'way star Betty Garrett, cabaret diva Wesla Whitfield, B'way star/comedienne Carole Cook, cabaret singer Meg Mackay, B'way stars Mary Jo Catlett, Billy Porter, Anne Ruffinsson, and Tammi Tappan, choreographers/dancers Cate Caplin & Murray Phillips, and cabaret artist Lisa Viggiano. \$150+ for gala reception, show, and post-show dessert & wine party with cast; \$75 show only. 5:30-7:30pm pre-show gala & auction; 8pm performance; 10:15-11:45pm post show party. 3301 Lyon St. Tix/info: 273-1620; www.helpisontheway.org

Tue 30

Lush Lounge

"Very Veronica," captivating soul cabaret showcasing the vivacious energy, sultry voice, insights and sexy song stylings of Veronica Klaus and her trio, with the incomparable Tammy Hall on piano. Klaus is an exceptional talent and a transgender success story. 9-11:30pm. 1100 Polk St. (at Post).



Living legend Ann Miller spreads her wings for Jan Wahl in Marc Huestis' "Too Darn Hot!" spectacle at the Castro Theatre. See Friday.

Fort Mason's Cowell Theater

The Black Rock Arts Foundation Presents: "The Floating World And The Journey Of Discovery: A Preview Of Burning Man 2002 Art." Burning Man's Third annual Dessert Art Preview features this year's art theme, The "Floating World." The sub-text is "Navigation," how we find our way through the world and what we seek in it. Founder, Larry Harvey will introduce the theme and Bay Area representative artists will offer a sneak preview of their work as site-specific and interactive installations. Artists using fire, water, light, sound and metal as creative mediums will discuss works-in-progress.

Burning Man is an annual event held in the Black Rock Desert of Nevada the week before Labor Day. Participants from all over the world converge on a barren, dry lakebed where they build a temporary settlement known as Black Rock City, for the purpose of creating art, performances and other forms of "radical self-expression". The event culminates on Saturday night with the burning of a wooden humanoid figure. Nothing is for sale in Black Rock City except ice and coffee, and participants must bring everything they need to survive. In 2001, 25,400 people attended Burning Man. \$15-\$20 sliding. 7pm. Tix/info: 345-7575; www.burningman.com

Wed 31

Plush Room

Stage and screen wonder Rita Moreno, star of the current HBO series "OZ," returns to The Plush Room for a two-week engagement in this ele-

gant, intimate setting. She captures hearts and minds with her exquisite singing. She'll be accompanied by George Gaffney on piano, Ted Sommers on percussion, and Mario Surachi on bass. \$35 + two-drink minimum. 8pm Tues.-Sat. (plus 10:30pm Sat.); 3pm Sun. Thru Aug. 11. York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix: 885-2800.

Lush Lounge

Rising young cabaret star Spencer Day livens the joint with his infectious charm and masterful jazz stylings, featuring Eric Sandall on bass and Kathryn Aaker on trumpet, plus guests. (Day also performs solo at the Lush Lounge on Sundays at 6pm). 9-11:30pm. 1100 Polk St. (at Post).

Thu

Intersection for the Arts

Special benefit performance of "Half a Dozen Dorothy's," an evening out with Dorothy Parker, directed by Wyn de Wally, starring Dickson Frasure Simpson and Jordan L. Moore. A benefit for the Quan Yin Healing Arts Center in the Mission, one of the finest alternative-healing centers in the city. 446 Valencia St. (near 16th St.). Call for time and ticket price: 861-4964.

The Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros

Theatre Rhinoceros presents "Playwright's Stew," the sixth festival of new works, co-directed by Joan Grinde and Megan Murphy. Two weekends of fresh theatre, beginning this weekend with "What to Do With Dennis" by Dave Morrison, directed by Jim McCunn; "Communica-

tion is a Bitch! Or What?" written and directed by Michael Haven; "Friends and Neighbors" by John Arnold, directed by Kirk White; and "Cracked" by Dorothy Adams, directed by Joan Grinde. Featuring ensemble actors Davina Cohen, JanLee Marshall, Joy Lain, Marya Murphy, David Irving, and Grant Lambert. \$10-\$12. 8:30pm. Thru Aug. 11. 2926 16th St. (btwn Mission & S. Van Ness). Tix: 861-5079.

The Sisters @ MCC-SF

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence present "Ba-da-BINGO," the hit community fundraiser, with special musical guests Connie Champagne and the Whoa-Nellies live on stage. August is "Flower Power Bingo," and the player dressed in the best Flower Power costume wins \$50 cash prize. \$12 admission gets you 10 games with cash prizes up to \$250 per game, special gifts, a chance at door prizes, and the antics of the Sisters. Doors open 7pm. 150 Eureka St. Info: www.TheSisters.org

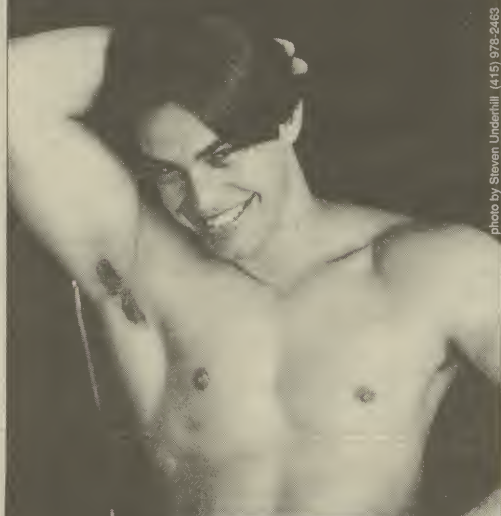
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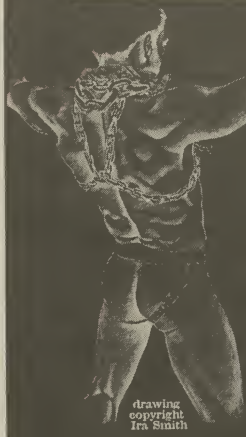
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SHARE YOUR HOT August Nights with Us!!!

Taking it 'Up Your Alley'

Warming up for the Big One

by Mister Marcus

In San Francisco, a party atmosphere is in full swing leading up to Sunday's Dore "Up Your Alley" Fair. It's the warm-up act for the much larger Folsom Street Fair in September, but the clubs and bars are still hopping with leather.

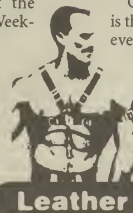
Tonight, Thursday, July 25 at Daddy's, meet the contestants and the judges for the California Leather Man, Leather Woman and Leather Boy contest that will be taking place at the Ramada Plaza Hotel (at 8th & Market) on Saturday night. There will be a basket auction for the winners' travel fund, including one from all the judges.

Also tonight at the Powerhouse, a "Men in Black" party will be held, with all manner of leather, rubber, uniforms on display. Let's hope Will Smith shows up! It's a pre-Dore Alley leather event at which a "Mr. Dore Alley" contest will take place, with a "leather prize" by Troy Anicete to be bestowed upon the winner. Whether the winner will advance to compete for a higher leather title is open to conjecture. For details, call 552-8689. And aren't you glad that we have yet another leather title?

On Friday night, July 26, tourists from all over the world will be roaming around town looking for "action," and many will attend the 20th edition of the SF Leather Daddy contest beginning at 2100 at the Eagle Tavern. Robert Davolt will step down from the title. Good luck to all the contenders!

On Saturday night at around 1900 hours, the main ballroom at the Ramada Plaza Hotel will be the site of the California Leather Family contests. The judges are here already and the winners will advance to compete in Washington, D.C. next April at the American Brotherhood Weekend.

The judges gearing up for this contest are Kevin Casey (last year's winner and chief judge), David Kloss, Peter Jackson, Robert Blackmon, Herb Kaylor, Darrell Moyers, Kat Matthews, and Rich "The Bear" Trevino (current American Leather Man). Lenny Broberg will serve as Master of Ceremonies of the contest and he promises to be



Leather

on his best behavior. Tickets are only \$15, and they are available at Daddy's even as you read this.

On Sunday, the main event is the Dore Alley Fair, which as everyone but first-timers knows is held between 9th & 10th streets and between Folsom and Howard streets. The SM-MILE board of directors and the volunteers are hoping for great weather, and they almost always get what they want. If you

don't have a good time, it's your own fault. It will also be an opportunity to be the first on your block

to have the 2003 Bare Chest Calendar, which makes its debut today. James Scott Geras, the photographer, has outdone himself. Even seasoned calendar veterans praise it as "the best ever." Buy one or more and send one to your best "sister" or "bud" back home in the provinces!

More business

The leather calendar from coast to coast and continent to continent gets more and more crowded as the years go by. Here it is mid-summer, and it is hopeless to even make an attempt to get to all the events taking place. Some

next page ►



Ralph Wood of Pennsylvania won the Mid-Atlantic Leather Sir title in Washington, D.C. last week. He's seen here with Mid-Atlantic Leather Boy Jose Guttierrez. They advance to the Leather Sir/Boy finals in St. Petersburg, Florida in October.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, July 25

Meet & Greet at Daddy's, where judges and contestants for the California Leather Family titles will gather for a basket auction and more.

"Men in Black" pre-Dore Alley Fair party at the Powerhouse, choosing Mr. Dore Alley in a contest.

Weekend, July 26-28

International Ms. Leather 2002 in Omaha, Nebraska. Mr. and Ms. Deaf Leather Contest in San Diego on Saturday.

California Leather Man, Woman and Boy contest on Saturday night.

Friday, July 26

San Francisco Leather Daddy XX will be chosen tonight at the Eagle Tavern in the patio with a beer/soda bust. Check out the locals and all the tourists.

Saturday, July 27

California Leather Man, Woman, and Boy contests

at the Ramada Plaza Hotel on 8th & Market. Victory party for winners afterward at Daddy's Bar.

Meet the men of the Rubber Men of San Francisco at the Loading Dock anytime after 2100 until closing.

The 15 Association monthly play party with lots of out-of-towners and you know what that means! \$15 donation, BYOB, sodas/lube provided. Mr. and Ms. San Diego Deaf Leather contest in that city.

Sunday, July 28

Dore Alley Fair, Folsom St. between 9th & 10th and between Folsom & Howard. If you've got it, flaunt it! Thousands will be there to celebrate our lifestyle and raise funds for charity as well. Don't miss this one!

Thursday, August 1

Check the TV Guide for Peter Fitz's documentary, "Joan Crawford, the Ultimate Movie Star" on the Turner Classic Movie channel. Mr. Fitz was Mr. Los Angeles Leather 2001!

Sports for dummies

by Sweet Lips

The way to a man's heart is through his big-screen TV, and take it from me, there's no better way to cuddle up to a hot jock than by dropping into Club Rendez-Vous (1312 Polk St.) for one of our famous 49ers Parties. The next one is coming up Sunday, August 4, with all the guys and faux gals gathering for cocktails and a pre-season game. The action begins at 11 a.m., with the 49ers taking on the Washington Redskins. For some reason, they're playing in Osaka, Japan. But you don't have to go that far to tackle a

man!

Speaking of sports — which some gays do with relish (hold the mustard) — congratulations to the Reflections "Free Agent"

for winning the Gay Softball League's "C" Division Championships.

The League will be going to Portland in early August for

the Gay World Series, representing San

Francisco. Make sure you attend their big fundraiser party on Sunday, August 4, starting at 2 p.m.

For royal action, be sure to

catch the official "Mr./Miss Golden Gate official kick-off party, presented by Emperor Berlin and

Empress Barbie in conjunction with the

Imperial Council of SF this Friday, July 26 at 9

p.m. Applications for entrants are available at Mar-

lena's, 488 Hayes St.

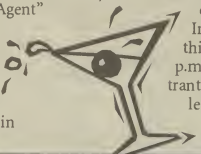
Phone 864-6672 for

details. You can get more information at

www.ClubRendez-Vous.com, or call Club R-V at

309-CLUB.

Here's wishing you all a great football season! ▼



Cocktail Hour

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

leather folks will be sweltering in the summer sun. Just think of the weather in such places as Florida, Texas, Arizona and most of the Southern states where it is practically an ordeal to don your "skins" in all that heat. Nevertheless, dedicated leather people put up with it as a matter of leather pride. In San Francisco, fortunately, leather can be worn year-round and even during some of our notorious "heat waves," because you can always count on the fog rolling in at around 4 p.m., and then you're most likely to don your leather just to stay warm!

In San Diego, the Mr. and Ms. Deaf Leather contest is taking place on Saturday night at 1800 (2502 Violet St.) with a \$15 price tag at the door. For info, click on www.geocities.com/kokomosd

They're gearing up in Dallas, Texas for the upcoming Ms. World Leather 2002 competition the weekend of August 9-11. Billed as "a different kind of contest for a different kind of a woman," the weekend package is a mere \$95 and one of the best hotels in the country, The Radisson Dallas (1-888-588-9846) offers rooms for \$69 a night. It was a big hit last year and the winner, Annie Romano-Blas of San Diego has done a great job with the title. Hope to see you all there (that means men too!). For more info visit the Web at www.MsWorldLeather.com.

For a possibly cooler climate, consider the International Ms. Leather 2002 contest in Omaha, Nebraska. Though producer Amy Marie Meek has been slow to send out details, I can tell you is that the host hotel for the weekend is the Radisson Redick, for \$79 a night (888-342-5339). Good luck to all the contestants.

Leather sir/boy gearing up

The leather titles that replace



Mr. SF Leather Peter Jackson visited his hometown of Halifax, Nova Scotia last weekend to participate in that city's pride parade. He's shown here with Steve Lavolette, Mr. Atlantic Canada Leather 2001.

the former International Drummer and Drummer Boy (now International Sir and International Boy) are progressing. Already, the regions that have fielded contestants are Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, South Central and Florida.

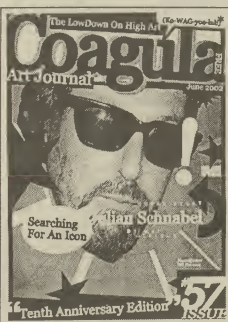
During August, the momentum heats up with the Northern California region taking place at the Russian River Eagle on Saturday, August 3rd and the Southwest Regional in Phoenix. The weekend of August 16-18, the Northwest Region takes place in Seattle, followed by the Southern California Region the next weekend (Aug. 23-25) in San Diego and being produced by IM Drummer '93 Graylin Thornton. The finals will be held at the Sun Coast Resort in St. Petersburg, Florida during the weekend of October 10-13. For

ticket and hotel accommodations, click on: www.L LeatherSir.com or call (412) 889-9605. It should be a blast in Florida that weekend!

Errata

Before I forget, in last week's column, the name of the new Ms. Alameda County Leather is NYNA, not Myna. Also be advised that the photo of Peter Jackson on his motorcycle shown was taken in San Francisco not in Miami. My apologies to all.

More leather events will be coming your way as we progress through summer and before you know it, September will be here with all that goes on around the country. Stay tuned and for leather news from all areas of the country, be sure to click on: www.L LeatherPage.com. ▼



piece "LA Times anoints imbecilic illustrator an artist," Gleason

writes, "There is a phenomena unique to people with money. They are so used to buying everything, they believe that they can buy things that are usually earned. Yuroz sounds exactly like one of them. He rages about having to kiss ass when he would rather be painting. Yuroz even threatens to take his ball and go home, he ponders building his own museum. Hey look, a narcissistic rich person, you don't see one of those every — well, okay, you do."

OT eats this kind of stuff right up, which is why we're so grateful for venues like Bucheon Gallery, 540 Hayes, which take the trouble to receive and distribute Coagula.

ends July 31st

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drawing © the Smith

Out There

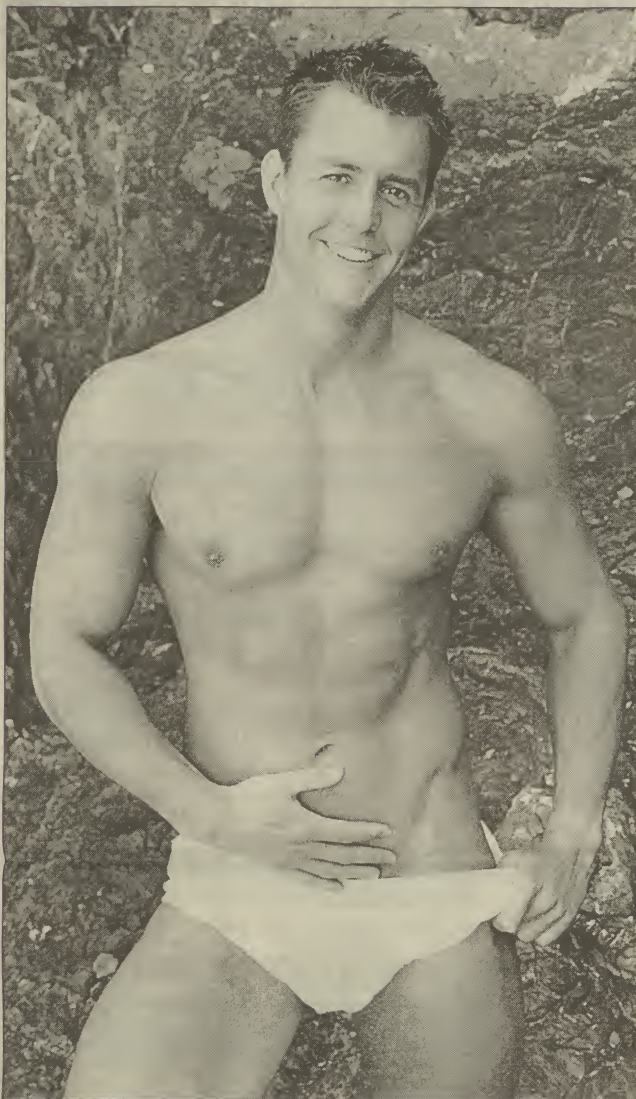
◀ page 26

others. The earliest professional images of Marilyn Monroe taken by photographer Andre de Dienes will be showcased, as will photos of Marilyn taken by Douglas Kirkland shortly before her death. Info at www.photosanfrancisco.net

Can't buy love

In the 10th anniversary edition of the hilarious, highly corrosive art-world journal Coagula, editor Mat Gleason takes apart another pretentious artist, this one single-named Yuroz, like Cher. In his

BAR TALK



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PARTING GLANCES

7/7 Lv To Oak Swain

You: yellow A's cap, blk tee. Me: green tee, wht shorts. We shared a plane, a shuttle and a Bart train. Now, now about dinner? (great legs, btw). ☎ 71905

Sun 6/30 11:30am Muni Castro To Powell. Me: Daddy in Monet T-shirt. You: Boyish with two friends. We chatted at the map and played mutual eye games till Powell. Lost track of you. It's a long shot, but... ☎ 71906

Bewitching Eyes!

A passing smile on 6/30 at Pride RadFaer Village, but can't forget those eyes. You: Slender, mulatto, long hair. Me: Stocky, sunburned Caucasian, short hair. Destiny calls! ☎ 71907

You Held My Hand At "Paramount" In Oakland, as we watched "His Girl Friday" on 7/12. Then, you disappeared, before you got my number. I'm extremely sad, now. If you see this, please answer! ☎ 71922

Hey Thin Boy At "Lone Star" Pride Sunday, green tank, shell necklace, cool shades. We cruised heavily Memorial Day (Sunday) as well. Sorry I couldn't follow through. Let's hook up. Better late than never. ☎ 71923

Hanover A-NewYork A-At A Play Let's get together for a drink and see where it will lead us. Perhaps a pleasant adventure. ☎ 71924

Ballet At Golds Gym, July 11 You're an Asian guy doing ballet moves + stretches in the stretching room. I'm a tall thin Caucasian guy. We made eye contact- I'd like to meet. ☎ 71925

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Dominant Mature Masculine GWM ISO submissive, healthy, GWM, well built to train for his pleasure. Clean shaven a plus but not essential. ☎ 71897

~Cute Young Brazilian~ Single, attractive, 36yr old seeks 18-40yr old nice guys for l/r relationship or casual dating, romantic inquiries please. ☎ 71898

Peninsula Poz Man Boy Poz, healthy 36, Mexican-Portuguese. Tan skin, runners build looking together poz guys for dating and sensual fun. Nice butts are a plus. ☎ 71899

Seek Long Hard Nipples To Suck W/B; goodlooking wants A/W w/smooth body clean shaven who needs top to bottom oral service, you're horny I'm eager to tickle your tits w/my tongue, lips. Hope for ltr. ☎ 71900

I Suck. You Fuck. My Ass Awaits. Midage goodlooking W/B; curious seeks A/W smooth to lite hairy clean shaven who likes being sucked hard to fuck me then willing to suck me to completion steady sex buddy. ☎ 71901

"Rookie Cops S.F." Young goodlooking gay or straight police officers, for good safe sex and possible relationship. No smokers, fats or fems. ☎ 71908

Shoulder To Lean On Attractive, relationship oriented, young looking Asian 40, 5'6", slim, intelligent, clean-cut seeks similar attractive GWM 30-48 for dating, poss.ltr. ☎ 71909

Young At Heart GWM Seeks Romance GWM seeks fun man for dating, possible relationship as time goes by. Young 50, fit, goodlooking (I'm told), active, versatile, 6', 170lbs, artistic, versatile, romantic, humorous. ☎ 71910

"Baseball-Players"

Seeking males all races. Big round butts, nice strong legs, swollen nipples and great teeth and clean hygiene. No fats or fems. ☎ 71911

"Made For Each Other"

Seeking masculine, muscular, HIV+ regular guy who sits down to pee and has a pussy between his buns. Object: matrimony, or whatever. Me: 5'10", 180, 44, Black, muscular, masculine, poz. ☎ 71926

~New To Town & Ready To Date~ 35 year old Asian/Caucasian mixed educated HIV- affectionate clean shaven ISO handsome inshape HIV-man that would like to casually date with prospect of "marriage." ☎ 71927

P/t Romantic F/t Realist...

In game of life accepting applications for partner in crime morning coffe buddy. Spontaneous, adventurous, non-judgmental proffered. Shared experiences and poss. expenses. Inked nor cal Latin for h/w/t White. 30's and poz please. ☎ 71928

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Big Dick For 69 Wanted

Masculine, discrete dude looking for a hung 69 bud. I work out, aub/gm, age 35, nice cock +balls. You: Big dick, over 35. ☎ 71902

Bottoms Wanted

Black male top, muscular, hung, Seeking White, Latino bottoms 21-45. Smooth a plus. ☎ 71903

Oakland Black Man, 48,

Needs a good fast B.t. 2x weekly. Seeking a mature, masculine oral expert, either clean shaven or moustache only. Direct contact phone # required. Husky build a plus. ☎ 71912

Big, Chubby, Fat, Husky

GBM, 5'11", 250lbs, big chest, hung, 48y.o. seeks big men for intimate, discreet, fun times. Please be big and uninhibited. ☎ 71913

Do You Want To Cuddle?

Slender dark HM seeking fit WM 45-55yr. old for overnight cuddling. Sex not necessary, just some good company. ☎ 71914

GAM ISO GWM For Safe Clean Fun

Me: 38, 5'10", slender, clean cut professional. Enjoy long foreplay, kissing, jo, oral, massage, showers lots of body contact. Must be STD free and into healthy living. Not into stereotypes. ☎ 71915

Spank Your Butt

Goodlooking topman, 37, 5'11", 170#, work out. Seeks well-built bottom with firm, round butt spanking. Into role-playing and plowing your ass. ☎ 71916

"Bodybuilders-Prof."

Love big swollen nipples chest males for strong aggressive hot safe love making. Strong nipple sucking, rimming and good kissing plus a possible relationship. No fems or fats. ☎ 71917

The Hottest Guy In Town

Even the hottest guy in town is not worth risking your life over. Always play safe. Wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Remember, safe sex is hot sex! ☎ SAFE

Latex Sex

...is safe sex. Wear a condom. ☎ SAFE

Total Pig

GWM 39 150lbs blond brown hair swimmer build, into fisting, toys, fucking giving & receiving. ☎ 71918

Sexy Man Seeks Younger Mate

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Hung Italian Guys Wanted!

I'm looking for Italian guys who are hung "8", "9", "10" for long oral sucking sessions; J.O. 69 watching video's etc.. If you're good-looking a plus, but looks not important. ☎ 71929

Uncut, Hung-9, Hairy, Masc, Musc, HIV+ GWM, 50, 5'9", 160, balding, goat-tee, versatile man. ISO masc/musc, fit man., great butt, nice cock, "nipple work", light S&M, kiss & cuddle. Live on East Coast, visiting S.F. Sept. Photo req'd. HIV+. ☎ 71930

??? Bad Ass Butt Boy ???

GW masc, dirty old man (top, not versatile) needs b/g W. masc, submissive butt boy o/40. ☎ 71931

Cute GWM Seeks Fun Adventure I'm 28, smooth, boyish, cute. Clean-cut, sideburns, light brown hair, hazel/green eyes. Other guys in their 30's with slim/ medium builds and with dark hair are my favorites. ☎ 71932

European Guys

I like guys from Europe, particularly guys from France, Italy Spain and other countries. If you are good-looking, or hung, it is a plus. Let's get together. 71933

Horsehugng Hispanics Wanted!

I am looking to Hispanic guys who are hung "9" or more, to service and suck, jack-off 69 etc. for an hour or two or longer. I want to serve you. ☎ 71934

Hung Hispanic Guys Needed!

I want. Hispanic mates that are hung "8", "9" or "10" inches or larger to suck for an hour or more, watch hot video's, etc. Well have a real hot time. ☎ 71935

Attention: Hung Guys!

I'm seeking guys who are hung "9" or more for fun, long or short oral sucking sessions. I have you to watch video's, i.o., etc. and service guys like you. ☎ 71936

Senior Suck

WM, 45, 6', 185 buzzcut, goat-tee seeking guys in their 50, 60's, 70's who need oral service. Love to suck and. Grey hair and beards a plus. ☎ 71937

Into Latex Sex

Latex sex is hot sex is safe sex! Always wear a condom and never exchange bodily fluids. Play safe! ☎ SAFE

LESBIAN

Love To Worship Lady Sweetspot! Any B.A.R. women- leather/lace who would allow this respectful WM to worship between your legs? I'm on my knees in front of you adoring your sweetspot with my mouth. ☎ 71941

FETISHES

Regular Rim Buddy Wanted!!

By mature body builder who wants a steady partner for mutual rimming sessions. ☎ 71904

Nipple Workout Long Sessions

Of pulling, twisting and mutual nipple suck. Goodlooking GWM 42yo in shape with hairy chest, seeks others. ☎ 71920

FFT Wants FFB

GWM 60 HIV- 6'5" 260 nice big hands wants GWM 30+ HIV- bottom call and play- herb/aroma + + talk at you soon. ☎ 71938

"Video Rim Freak"

GBM into party on rimming hot butt, fisting, toys, your choice. Need place to play kinks, odors, orange, red, blue, yellow. ☎ 71939

Young Tight Dragqueens Fantasy

Me bi-HM, 54, ISO young 18-27 only- drag queens; pluses: red-heads, cigar-smokers, 69, pretty- lips, tight- ass for three-some fun, no B.S., drug-free... ☎ 71940

OTHERS

Tall And Thin Top 40's B/Blu Beard looking for obedient hungry holes. ☎ 71921

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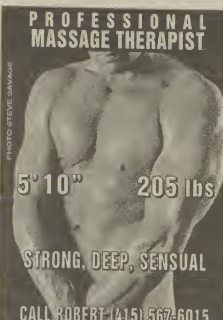
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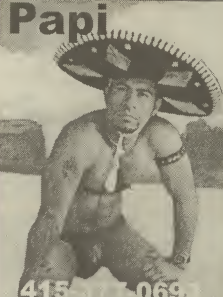


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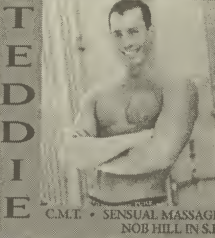
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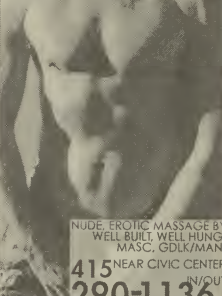
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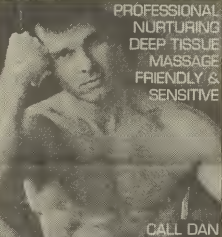
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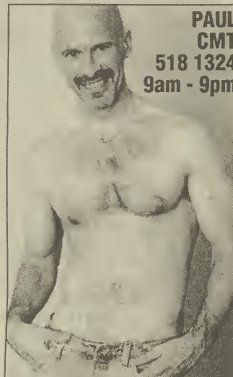


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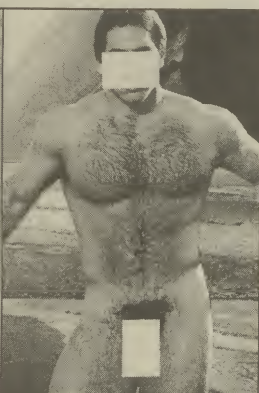
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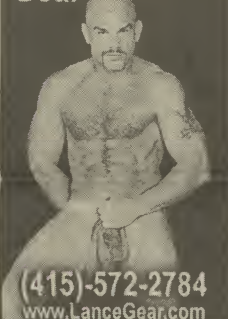
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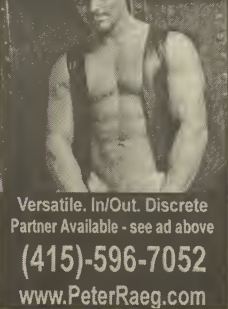
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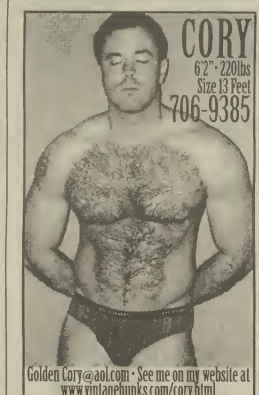
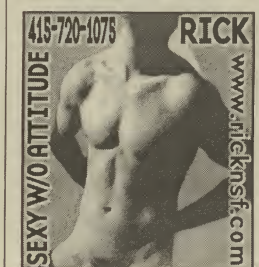
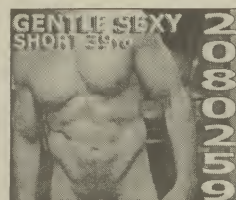
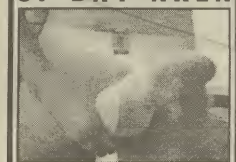
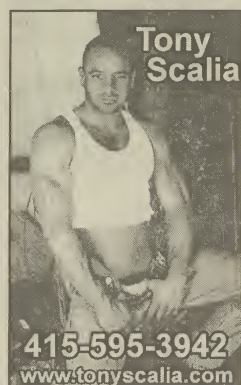
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5'7", 138 steamy safe pgr 251 2723**KINKY BOY**
27, 5'6", 140#, lean, hot, fun
deeply sensual. Lots of scenes.
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Top-butplay Clint 415 864 2974Sexy • Strong & Stocky • Versil • Masc
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6'2", brn/bru, massage 2 • 415-414-2939**HOT SURFER BOY**
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Hot Italian will top you with
my fist call Chris 929-1764**DOMINANT BLACK TOP**
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9"

24 hrs, 24 hrs, 24 hrs
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washboard stomach
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Masculine sexy fun & hung thick

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Hot times and oral needs- 24hrs.
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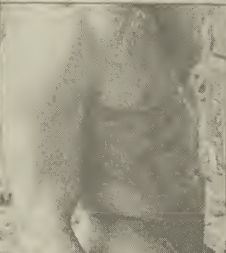
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6' 180lbs 26yoflaxen hair, slim

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WHILE YOU ENJOY ME!
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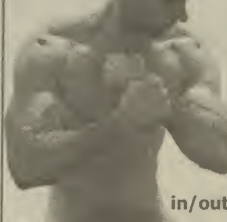
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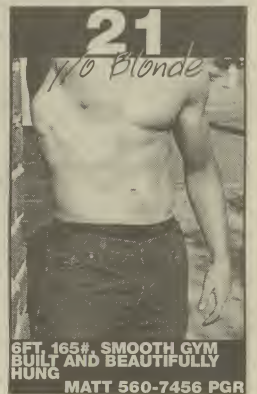
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HUNG
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BUILT AND BEAUTIFULLY
HUNG
MATT 560-7456 PGR

C_K Pleaser Total Bottom

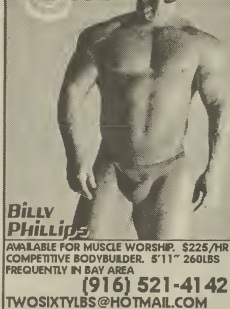


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34 (looks younger)
Brown hair/eyes
Lightly hairy gym toned body
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COLE

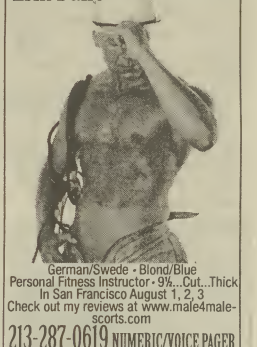
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INSATIABLE BOTTOM
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SEXY-VERY MASCULINE
MILD TO WILD
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Very hot 28 yr old 5'9", 165#
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in/out calls- Jason 415-210-1526

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs

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\$80/\$100 * JIM 269-5707

Mike, 37, 5'10", 200#, BI/Blu
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ARE YOU DADDY ENOUGH?

CALIFORNIA LEATHER MAN
CALIFORNIA LEATHR WOMAN
CALIFORNIA LEATHER BOY
will be chosen at the Ramada Plaza Hotel on Saturday, July 28th. Do you have your ticket(s) yet?

Emilio, Shane, Charlie: Remember Uncle Slowly Porcupine with the big white dogs? I am in Albuquerque now and have a nice big house to share with a cute and friendly guy. Please give me a call and I'll try to send you a ticket. Kent: 505-507-4121

S.Cruz area/Free Suck (Mamada) 4 men any race, 18-30, slender. Poss. 3-way. Call TJ 831-722-3739

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 \$40 Reception & Show \$25 for show only (Balcony Seating) Order by phone: 621-1216 or 777-0333.
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